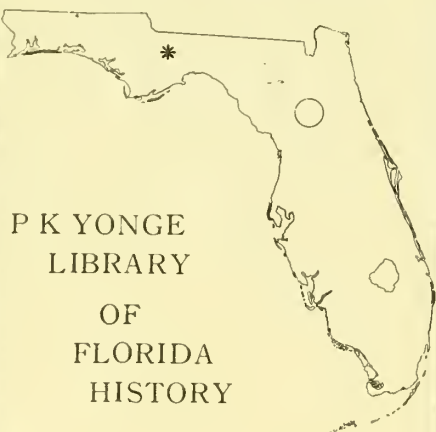


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HISTORY

RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS [TAMPA,

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Approximately
1500 words
April 15, 1938

John W. Rabb
Tampa, Florida

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RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS

(Tampa Bulletin - Negro
Sept. 1921-Feb. 1922)

Although the Tampa Bulletin was established in 1915, complete files go back only through 1928. The oldest copies now available, i.e. for 1921, show a high standard of journalism and typography comparable to the better class of weeklies. Still published once a week, the present Bulletin is on a par with the average small daily and housed in its own modern building with well equipped plant and competent force is capable of getting out a creditable daily at any time there is sufficient demand for one among the colored population.

Perusal of the files of the Bulletin shows a good coverage of local and national fields from the standpoint of colored readers, even seventeen years ago.

The issue of October 8, 1921 contains a Washington dispatch to the effect that President Harding had granted an audience on September 28 to a delegation of thirty leading colored men and women, including James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, and Major Moxton, principal of Tuskegee Institute. The delegation bore a petition asking executive clemency for 61 former members of the 24th Infantry some of whom were doing life sentences and others long terms in the federal penitentiary as result of the Houston, Texas, riot.

The following is quoted from the Bulletin's account of James Weldon Johnson's address to President Harding upon this occasion:

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Old Newspaper Material
Tampa, Florida
John W. Rabb
April 15, 1938

*Mr. President;

*As secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and spokesman for this delegation....I have the honor to present a petition signed by 50,000 American citizens, white and black, praying that you exercise executive clemency and pardon the sixty-one members of the 24th US Infantry now in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas, convicted on charges of rioting at Houston, Texas, in August, 1917.

"The petition you will note asks for your pardon on three grounds: First, the previous record for discipline; second, the provocation of local animosity which manifested itself in insults, threats and acts of violence against colored soldiers; third, the heavy punishment meted out to members of the 24th Infantry of whom nineteen were hanged, thirteen of them summarily and without right of appeal to the Secretary of War or to the President, their commander in chief."

The article goes on to review the case and state some of the circumstances leading up to the crime, stating among other things that the provost guard had been relieved of their side arms before the incident and that alleged mistreatment of one of the regiment's sergeants who at the time had been reported killed inflamed the soldiers. It recounted the alleged mistreatment of a Negro woman by city officers and the consequent interference of the sergeant and others as one of the causes leading up to the riot. Files of the period do not state the outcome of the audience or the president's action upon the petition.

The issue of September 31 reports three difficult major operations performed successfully by a trio of colored surgeons in Tampa. Dr. J. A. White, assisted by Dr. G. P. Norton and Dr. G. W. P. Johnson, removed two fibroid tumors and a cystic ovary from women all of whom quickly recuperated. One of the patients hailed from Dunnellon.

On the same date thirty colored people met in the office of Dr. White when organization of the Tampa Business League was perfected with the following officers elected: President, Dr. J. A. White; vice president, N. W. Meek; secretary, Mrs. L. B. Robinson; treasurer, W. L. Rose.

The same issue carried an account of the fourteenth annual convention of Alpha Phi Alpha in Baltimore. Alpha Phi Alpha, first Negro college fraternity, was organized in 1906.

Another item stated that during the previous summer the Federal Council of Churches organized a commission on Negro churches and race relationship of which John J. Eagan, prominent Presbyterian layman of Atlanta, was chairman. The commission was composed of representatives of all churches, both white and colored, affiliated with the council. Reporting on the first public statement of the commission, the Bulletin stated that the commission had voiced its conviction that the Christian religion afforded the only real solution of racial problems and that Christian brotherhood was the only basis for satisfactory racial relations.

In the issue of October 22, the Bulletin expressed wonder at a headline appearing in the Tampa Tribune of October 20 over an item of Plant City correspondence, as follows: URGES SANITATION IN NEGRO QUARTERS NEAR WHITE HOMES. The Plant City communication was in reference to advice given by Dr. A. C. Hamblin of the State Board of Health, the Bulletin stated. Why watch sanitation only near white homes or rather should not all quarters receive proper sanitary supervision?-- the Bulletin inquired.

Reviewing the work of Negro agents in connection with the Farm and Home Makers' Schools for colored people under direction of the agricultural extension division of the College of Agriculture, University of Florida, the Bulletin reported a total attendance of more than 500 at schools held in Jefferson and Leon counties and quoted President N. B. Young of the Florida A & M College in advising the colored people to consider these schools as important as their church revivals because they taught the people to live properly by practicing cleanliness and economy and to educate their boys as well as girls. Similar schools were to be held in Hillsborough county.

Commenting upon the President's Birmingham address, the issue of December 3, 1921 had to say under the caption of What the Negro Wants:

"President Harding's Birmingham speech has failed to satisfy the democrats of the south or the Negroes of the north but it may the negroes of the south."

Quoting from F. D. Lugard's article on the color question in the Edinburgh Review, President Harding had said:

"Here then is the true conception of the interrelation of color--complete uniformity in ideals, absolute equality in the paths of knowledge and culture, equal opportunity for those who achieve; in matters social and racial a separate path, each pursuing his own inherited traditions, preserving his own race purity and race pride; equality in things spiritual, agreed divergence in the physical and material."

Quoting from the Elizabeth City (N.C.) Independent, the Bulletin continues:

"There is nothing in that utterance of President Harding for any demagogue to tear his hair over. Common human decency demands that the Negro have political, educational and economic justice and that is about all the average southern Negro desires. All this talk of social equality gets nowhere because it means nothing...What the average honest, ambitious Negro of both north and south wants is just to be let alone and make himself the best possible Negro."

Sunday, September 25, 1921, marked opening of the Industrial School for Colored Girls at Ocala, a dream of Mary McLeod Bethune come true.

The Florida Normal and Industrial Institute began its 29th annual session October 5, 1921. This was its fourth session on its new site at St. Augustine.

Professor R. L. Peguese had arrived from South Carolina to become the new principal of Lomax High School.

Edward Waters College opened October 6, 1921, at Jacksonville, with James W. Martin as the new commandant. An officer overseas, he

The first part of the book is devoted to a general discussion of the principles of the theory of the mind. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the mind, the second on the faculties of the mind, and the third on the operations of the mind. The second part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the soul. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the soul, the second on the faculties of the soul, and the third on the operations of the soul. The third part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the body. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the body, the second on the faculties of the body, and the third on the operations of the body.

The fourth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the universe. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the universe, the second on the faculties of the universe, and the third on the operations of the universe. The fifth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human mind. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human mind, the second on the faculties of the human mind, and the third on the operations of the human mind. The sixth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human soul. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human soul, the second on the faculties of the human soul, and the third on the operations of the human soul. The seventh part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human body. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human body, the second on the faculties of the human body, and the third on the operations of the human body.

The eighth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human universe. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human universe, the second on the faculties of the human universe, and the third on the operations of the human universe. The ninth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human mind and soul. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human mind and soul, the second on the faculties of the human mind and soul, and the third on the operations of the human mind and soul. The tenth part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the principles of the theory of the human mind and soul and body. It is divided into three chapters. The first chapter is on the nature of the human mind and soul and body, the second on the faculties of the human mind and soul and body, and the third on the operations of the human mind and soul and body.

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had been cited for bravery in action and remained in the army after the World war. Martin hailed from Kenosha, Wis.

The Howard University Law School in Washington, D. C., began its first year under Dean Mason N. Richardson.

The following item on the program of higher education for Negroes in North Carolina appeared under a Hampton, Va. date line:

"The present North Carolina program of Negro education and health--state and local-- provides for spending \$4,000,000 in the near future. Some fifteen years ago North Carolina was spending about \$4,000,000 annually for the education of all its citizens--white and colored."

Suspense - Old Newspapers - Tampa

Incomplete
Approx. 2,125 words
February, 1938

Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida

ADD--RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS

(Historical material and other excerpts from the Tampa Morning Tribune of 1920)

BEGINNING OF 1920

Early issues of the Tribune for 1920 disclosed a news trend that was partly indicative of developments through the year, locally, nationally and world-wide.

They revealed that in the United States there was bitter and ominous resentment among workers generally over the widespread suppression of strikes by court injunction, while Congress and European legislative bodies haggled over ratification of certain terms of the peace treaty with Germany. In this country lawmakers also wrangled interminably about anti-strike and railroad legislation. In response to persistent clamor of the people living costs in the U. S. were being slowly and reluctantly lowered by alleged profiteers. Herbert Hoover and Calvin Coolidge were outstanding aspirants for the Presidency to succeed Woodrow Wilson, still in failing health.

The king of Italy was making desperate efforts to save his crown by giving liberal concessions of land to the peasantry. Germany was still torn with strife of conflicting efforts to establish a stable government. In Russia the Soviet government maintained its power and broadened its conquest of that country.

Florida was marketing a bumper citrus crop at good prices. With pockets full of war profits, northern tourists flocked to the state and

Material from Tampa
Morning Tribune of 1920
Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
February, 1938.

spent money lavishly. Tampa, with its cigar factories working overtime, other industries expanding, and important harbor improvements stated, embarked upon a hopeful year.

There was but one shadow on the local horizon--the prospect of idle shipyards. After two years of feverish war-time building for the U. S. shipping board these contracts were ended by peace. The merchant marine was overstocked with ships, and some were being offered for sale at less than cost. This condition dashed the hopes of Tampa's shipyards for future business.

The general picture, however, indicated that all nations were gradually recovering from the bloody wounds of Armageddon, since the bright sun of peace had cast its beams over a war-darkened world.

And so, with this background, the stage was set for the news revue of 1920, as paraded in the Tribune's columns of that year.

TAMPA PROSPERED. In its issue of January 1, 1920, the Tribune presented statistics showing progress of the city and county by comparative figures of the year just ended and the preceding one. Among them were the following, which revealed considerable gains in important factors:

More than four hundred million cigars were manufactured in Tampa in 1919. Exact number was 418,039,830, as compared to 3,065,928 in 1918.

Customs receipts for 1919 were \$1,800,870.89, a sizeable gain over those of 1918, which were \$1,582,770.35.

Postoffice receipts, 1919, \$477,368; same for 1918, \$318,860.

Bank clearings for 1919, \$97,439,849.89; for 1918, \$73,926,741.66.

Phosphate shipments for 1919, 289,746 tons; for 1918, 173,347 tons.

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Building permits for 1919, valuation \$1,609,594; for 1918, valuation \$390,000.

Total tonnage of ships built and launched at Tampa shipyards in 1919 was 55,500 deadweight tons. Of these the Oscar Daniels Company built five steel freighters of 9,500 tons each. The Tampa Dock Company launched four wooden ships of 3,500 tons each and the 3,500-ton barge Fort Dade.

Police offenders were 50 percent fewer in the last two years than in the same time preceding. The Tribune credited this reduction to the Davis package (liquor control) law in 1918 and total prohibition in 1919.

Divorces tremendously exceeded marriages in Hillsborough county in 1919. There were 180 marriage licenses issued in the county, and 596 divorce suits filed. (No explanation was hazarded for this, but some commentators believed it was a reaction to hasty marriages of boys and girls just before the soldiers sailed for France).

In 1919 Tampa had 42 church buildings, with 13,000 members and church property valued at \$1,418,700.

STYLES OF 1920. Illustrations of latest styles in street clothing advertised in the Tribune at this time showed women posing in wide, floppy hats, dresses reaching down to high-topped shoes, skirts narrow at the bottom, but with much yardage in the voluminous over-drapes above. Men strutted in tight-waisted coats with wide flaring skirts and narrow-legged trousers, jauntily swinging swagger-sticks after the manner of army officers.

TAMPA BAY OPENED SEASON. (January 2, 1920, page 3). "Opening today

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for its thirty-second season, the Tampa Bay Hotel, 'the Moorish palace of the South,' faces the biggest year in its history, according to the opinion expressed last night by Manager W. F. Adams, who has things all lined up for the initial day, a registration, and the big opening dinner tonight. The Tampa Bay has been thoroughly renewed during the past few weeks, and has been put in shape for the season."

January 6, page 16 announced that at a meeting of the Tampa Tourist Club in the Tampa Bay Casino, S. R. Van Sant, of Minneapolis, ex-governor of Minnesota, in Tampa for the winter, was elected president of the club for the year. Several hundred tourists took part in the meeting.

STEEL STRIKE CALLED OFF. (January 9, page 1). This Pittsburg dispatch revealed further the growing resentment of labor:

"The strike in the steel mills and furnaces called September 22, and which at its inception involved 367,000 men, was officially called off here tonight by the national (steel workers) committee after an all-day meeting.

"Announcement that the national committee had decided to proceed no further was contained in a telegram sent to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, to the heads of all international unions interested and to the organizers and field men in all strike districts.

"The steel corporations,' the telegram said, 'with the active assistance of the press, the courts, the Federal troops, state police and many public officials have denied workers their rights to free speech, free assemblage and the right to organize, and by the arbitrary and ruthless misuse of power, have brought about a condition which has compelled the national committee for organizing iron and steel workers to vote today that the active strike phase of the steel campaign is now at an end. . . ."

"Steel company executives said they were not surprised that the strike had been called off, as the strikers have been drifting back to work for several months. Many mills, it was added, had long ago been opened full time and with full forces."

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NATIONAL PROHIBITION EFFECTIVE. (January 16, 1920, page 1).

Due to the final ratification of the eighteenth amendment to the Constitution, national prohibition went into effect at midnight, January 16, 1920. A dispatch from Washington dated January 15 told of the coming celebration of the event in that city:

"Inauguration of the nation's first saloonless year will be celebrated widely tomorrow night in Washington."

"JOHN BARLEYCORN" BURIED. (January 17, page 1). Church and temperance people in Tampa rejoiced at the final triumph of prohibition and were much interested in this dispatch from Norfolk, Va.:

"Ten thousand persons who alternately cheered and wept this afternoon heard Billy Sunday preach his last sermon against liquor as an ally of the Devil and verbally kick the deceased 'John Barley-corn' into a grave of shame and dishonor.

"There was little of the humorous in the sermon though the ceremony which preceded it was ludicrously funny. The ceremony began with the arrival of the 'corpse' on a special train from Milwaukee, in a coffin 20 feet long.

"The Devil himself' was the escort and 20 pallbearers lifted the casket into the hearse in which it was conveyed through the streets to the tabernacle. Sunday himself was not in the procession. He met the 'corpse' at the tabernacle and grinned delightedly as the huge casket was placed in the tabernacle at his feet.

"Goodbye, John,' he said, 'you were God's worst enemy; you were hell's best friend. I hate you with a perfect hatred. I love to hate you.'

"The devil, masked and dejected in appearance, sat close by the 'corpse' during the ceremony."

STRAWBERRIES HIGH. (January 18, page 9-B). A Plant City item told that C. D. Simmons had brought in 145 quarts of strawberries for which he received \$130.50. This sum added to previous sales by Mr. Simmons this early in the season gave him \$237 for 249 quarts of berries.

ALLIES WOULD PUNISH KAISER. (January 19). Kaiser Wilhelm, who had been a refugee in Holland since the war, seemed to be on a spot.

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A Paris cable on page 1 cited efforts of the allied supreme council to induce the Netherlands government to turn the former emperor over to the council for punishment: "for his many crimes against the law of nations and against civilization.*"

"The supreme council's note to the Dutch government asking that the former German emperor be given up to the allies under article 227 of the Versailles treaty for trial points out that if the ex-kaiser had remained in Germany he would have been delivered up under the same conditions by the German government."

As it transpired later, however, Holland definitely refused to give up the imperial refugee.

GRAPEFRUIT FOR FLU. (January 28, page 1, dispatch from Orlando):

"Florida grapefruit is being used in carload quantities to combat the spread of influenza in Chicago, Dr. P. Phillips of Orlando, now in Chicago, wiring today for two cars of grapefruit to be sent to Mayor William Hale Thompson for distribution.

"He said that Mayor Thompson may order more grapefruit. Two cars in bulk already have been sent to Chicago in care of Mayor Thompson."

(Another dispatch from Chicago on the same page stated that flu was raging there, with 1,378 cases reported and 96 deaths in one day).

DOCTORS LAUD GRAPEFRUIT. Efficacy of the curative properties of grapefruit and oranges in cases of influenza was further emphasized in this local news story on page 7 of the Tribune of January 28:

"The usefulness of grapefruit and oranges, widely demonstrated in the influenza epidemic of last winter, makes the present large Florida crop a matter of much importance to the entire country, according to Dr. Ralph N. Greene, state health officer.

"While citrus fruits were prescribed by physicians and freely recommended by health officers at the time influenza swept over the United States in November, 1918, the supply on the market was not sufficient to meet the extraordinary demands, and in many places grapefruit and oranges could not be obtained.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem of the origin of life. It is shown that the problem is not only a scientific one, but also a philosophical one. The scientific aspect of the problem is concerned with the question of how life arose from non-life. The philosophical aspect is concerned with the question of whether life is a necessary part of the universe or whether it is a mere accident.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the various theories of the origin of life. These theories are divided into two main classes: the theory of spontaneous generation and the theory of biogenesis. The theory of spontaneous generation is the older of the two and is based on the idea that life can arise from non-life. The theory of biogenesis is the newer of the two and is based on the idea that life can only arise from life.

The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the evidence for and against the theory of spontaneous generation. It is shown that there is a great deal of evidence in favor of the theory of spontaneous generation, but that there is also a great deal of evidence against it. The evidence in favor of the theory of spontaneous generation is based on the fact that life has been found to arise from non-life in a number of cases. The evidence against the theory of spontaneous generation is based on the fact that life has never been found to arise from non-life in a single case.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the evidence for and against the theory of biogenesis. It is shown that there is a great deal of evidence in favor of the theory of biogenesis, but that there is also a great deal of evidence against it. The evidence in favor of the theory of biogenesis is based on the fact that life has never been found to arise from non-life in a single case. The evidence against the theory of biogenesis is based on the fact that life has been found to arise from non-life in a number of cases.

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The tenth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the evidence for and against the theory of biogenesis. It is shown that there is a great deal of evidence in favor of the theory of biogenesis, but that there is also a great deal of evidence against it. The evidence in favor of the theory of biogenesis is based on the fact that life has never been found to arise from non-life in a single case. The evidence against the theory of biogenesis is based on the fact that life has been found to arise from non-life in a number of cases.

Add Material from Tampa
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 Lindsay M. Bryan
 Tampa, Florida
 February, 1938.

"The California crop had been practically exhausted when the influenza outbreak occurred, and the season's output of Florida groves was just beginning to become ripe enough to ship. While the epidemic was at its height, in a number of the larger cities and most of the smaller towns, the markets were bare of grapefruit and oranges for days at a time.

"This year Florida has the largest crop of grapefruit and oranges in its history. These fruits are now fully tree-ripened and are moving to markets in vast quantities. There will be plenty for everybody, Dr. Greene believes, so that Florida may assist materially in the fight on influenza which apparently must be made again throughout the United States.

"When influenza was most serious in Chicago during the fall of 1918 Dr. Augustus O'Neil, chairman of the Spanish influenza committee of that city and one of its leading physicians, issued a bulletin urging use of grapefruit in the treatment of the disease. Dr. Henry P. Backer, of New York City, Drs. Hawley and Wolfstein, of Cincinnati, and leading physicians of many other places advocated the prescription of citrus fruit juices in influenza cases, according to dispatches carried in the Associated Press at that time.

"Featured in Medical Journals"

"Comment on the splendid results obtained from grapefruit and oranges became a notable feature of medical journals, the editor of one of which referred to them as 'essential sick-room requisites.' Another said that 'as a remarkable thirst-quencher in fever cases the orange now is established as possessing certain curative properties, or at least positive relieving powers, in what is now known as a cold.' A third observer declared that 'oranges are now being generally prescribed for sufferers by physicians,' while a fourth averred that 'grapefruit is just as beneficial for influenza as oranges.'"

BIG LEAGUE BALL FOR TAMPA. (January 28) Local sport news on page 6, concerning the Washington team soon to train in Tampa announced:

"Seven games will be the Washington Senators' schedule in Tampa, with possibly a couple of earlier games with the Smokers (Tampa's local team) running the total up to nine, according to the schedule announced by Manager Griffith in Washington.

"The big games, two with the Hoosiers (Indianapolis club), four with the Cuban All-stars, and two with the world's champion Reds, will start March 15 and will be daily features, with one exception, until they start north March 25."

(The Indianapolis team was scheduled to train at St. Petersburg).

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TIN CAN TOURISTS FOUNDED. According to this local item in the Tribune of February 1, 1920, page 11-A, the now famous and nationwide "Tin Can Tourists of the World" were organized in Tampa in January, 1920:

"The Tin Can Tourists of the World entertained the Tampa Tourist Club last night at a jolly entertainment given in the pavillion at De Soto Park in Palmetto Beach, and it was sure some entertainment, too, for there is a lot of talent scattered among that bunch of globe trotters.

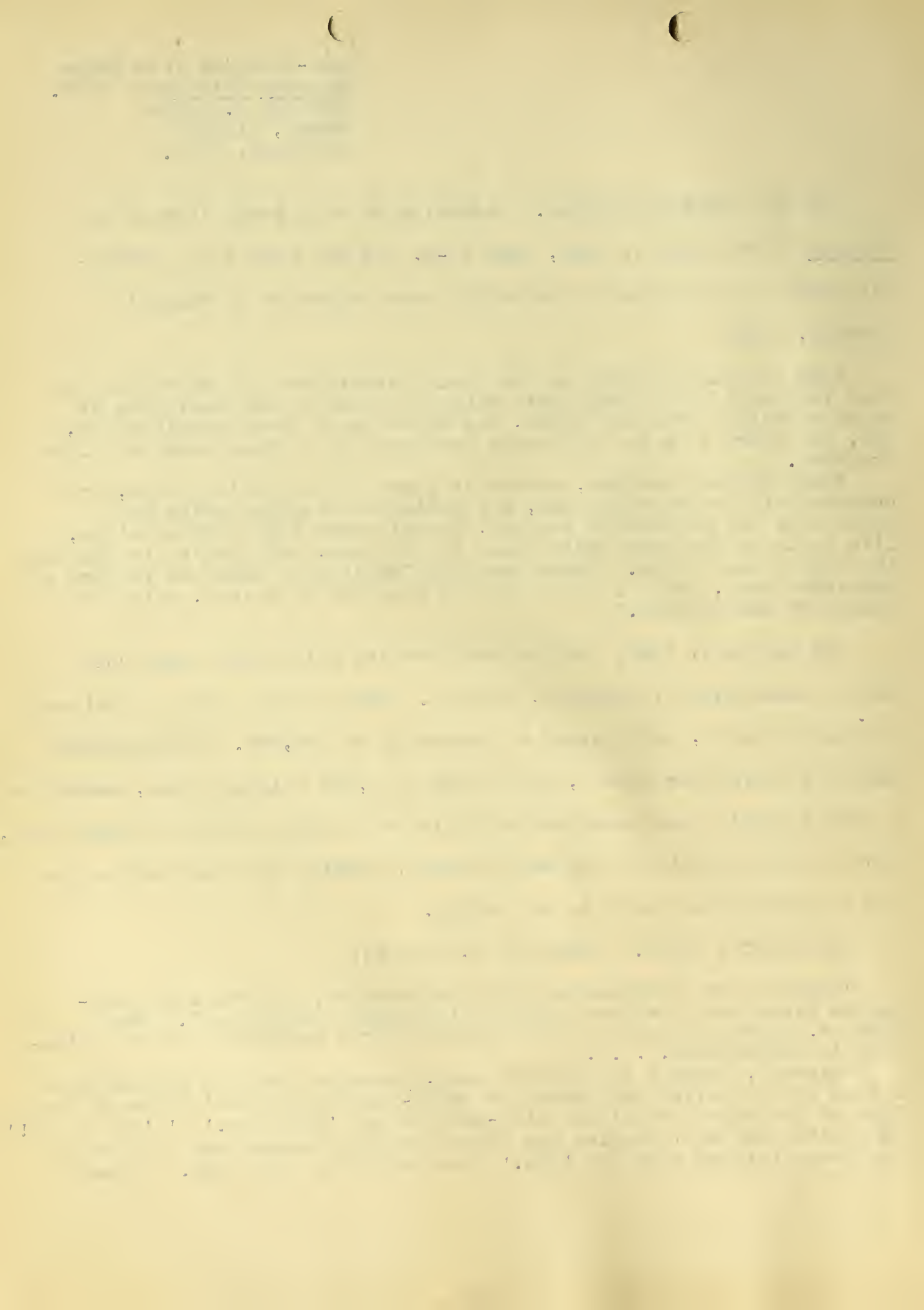
"The Tin Can Tourists, hoboes de luxe of the tourist world, are composed of the travelers who, for saking the routine paths and methods of the regulation tourist, travel where they take a notion, live in tents and cook their meals in the open, and with their families thoroughly enjoy life. There are many families of them now tenting at Palmetto Beach, and two weeks ago the club was organized, which now boasts of 200 members."

(In February, 1938, the Tin Can Tourists held their eighteenth annual convention at Sarasota, Florida. But now they live in trailers instead of tents, and claimed a membership of 200,000. Attending the Sarasota convention were 3,000 of them in 1,500 rolling homes, camped in a modern trailer park equipped with electric light and water connections, shower baths and other city conveniences, forming what was said to be the largest trailer park in the world).

NEW FLORIDA DRINK. (February 7, page 6):

"Speaking of champions of prohi enforcement, the American Anti-Saloon League and the late Carrie Nation have nothing on C. "Ned" Stewart, general manager of the Florida Citrus Exchange, for effectiveness in campaigning. . . .

"Stewart, being a sympathetic soul, pondered long and earnestly on a plan for relieving the thirst of multi-millionaire hostleries of the type of the Royal Poinciana, Ritz-Carlton and 'sichlike.' 'I've got it!' he shouted one day, causing his Citrus Exchange associates to fear he had been stricken with the 'flu.' But far be it from that. He had



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evolved what is destined to be the greatest drink of all history-- the hot grapefruit rickey. He called it H. G. R. for short. It is made 'thiserway':

"Squeeze grapefruit for juice and strain. Fill glass or cup one-third full of strained juice. Add sufficient hot water (not quite boiling) to fill glass or cup; sweeten slightly if desired. Note the beneficial effect.

"And to this the world's greatest mixologist adds such delicacies as frothed grapefruit juice and hot grapefruit egg-nog."

QUEER CATCHES. (February 10, editorial on page 8):

"We quote from the Apalachicola Times: 'Wednesday while cast-netting near Paradise Flats Mac McNeil and Josy Lewis threw their net over a beaver that had just dived to escape observation. The beaver was a brown beauty, full grown, and was brought to Apalachicola and exhibited to citizens.'

"And then, as if that performance were not already a record-breaker, and sufficient for one week's publicity, we find in another part of the page an additional hair-raising story, to-wit:

"Tuesday morning while fishing from the steamer Crescent City's dock on the river front, Miss Lawson, of Nashville, Tenn., hooked an alligator which was finally landed on the wharf with the assistance of Captain Henry Ridgely. The 'gator measured six feet two inches, and Miss Lawson will take him with her to Nashville as evidence of her prowess as an angler."

(MORE TO FOLLOW LATER)

1890

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Approx. 1375 words
February, 1938

Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida

BIRTH OF THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

The birth of a newspaper in the nineties probably involved more travail than does a venture in the journalistic field of today, but whatever the struggle, from its embryo stage, romance, colorful and dramatic, accompanied its growth. This was especially true of the Tampa Morning Tribune from the moment it was conceived in the mind of W. F. Stovall in 1893 until it became a thriving daily in 1895.

Wallace F. Stovall, born at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, January 4, 1869, with a twin brother, T. L. Stovall, ventured south to that new and untried state, Florida, in 1886, to take a job in the print shop of a brother-in-law in Ocala. The brother soon became homesick and returned to the "old Kentucky home", but Wallace, though still but a lad of eighteen, trekked to Lake Weir, Florida, where he embarked on the turbulent sea of journalism for himself. The Independent, his first venture, was short-lived, however, for shortly afterward he had a chance to buy out his brother-in-law and become the publisher of the Ocala Free Press. After a comparatively short sojourn there he moved on to Sumterville, a cross-roads settlement south of Ocala, where a new journalistic venture was christened the Times.

Still restless, young Stovall, upon the invitation of a friend, visited Tampa with the thought of a larger field to conquer, but according to his own statement was so disgusted with the appearance and general atmosphere of the place that after twenty-four hours he

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returned to Sumterville with a sigh of relief.

But this ambitious young man was not able to content himself in a town of such limited possibilities, and so, while the Sumterville Times was still in swaddling clothes, it was sacrificed on the altar of the Folk County News, Stovall's next new-born, when he moved to the little town of Bartow in 1891. Here he built up a flourishing weekly, bought a little home, and with a wife and child settled down and became a figure of more or less local prominence.

Still he was discontented. He wanted a daily paper in a larger town. So with this in mind he again visited Tampa, called on his old friend, Circuit Judge Hanson, and outlined his plan for a morning daily. The Judge, however, pointed out that it would be a poor business as the Times had recently started as an afternoon daily with H. J. Cooper as editor and with most of the prominent men of Tampa as stockholders. The Times had bought out the old Tampa Tribune of which T. H. Spencer was publisher, and the Tampa Journal of which Cooper himself had been editor. This in the Judge's mind left very little field for a new paper, especially another daily.

Nevertheless young Stovall went out into the town and called upon all the people he knew, and though he got very little encouragement since none could envision two successful dailies in Tampa, he still was undaunted. With even more determination he again called on Judge Hanson and asked him to please give him the name of just one person in town who disliked the Times. The Judge told him to call on Dr. J. P. Wall, himself a young man starting his career, who had recently had a run-in with that paper. In Dr. Wall young Stovall found what

he wanted, encouragement, and that was all he needed. He thereupon moved his family and his paper, lock, stock and barrel, which was little more than the proverbial "shirt tail full of type" to Tampa over night, set up the latter in a small building on Washington Street and went to work.

As E. D. Lambright, editorial writer on the Tribune said in a biographical sketch of Stovall:

"His advent in Tampa was by no means suspicious, because the hard-hearted railroad agent refused to release the 'plant' until the freight was paid. That was Stovall's first Tampa battle--and he won it. He raised the money, got the 'shop' out of the freight house, set it up in a ramshackle building. The Tampa Tribune was born."

On January 1, 1893, The Morning Tribune appeared on the streets of Tampa and the fireworks started.

With most of the business men of the city holding stock in the Times Publishing Company there was very little source from which to draw advertising revenue. The Times, therefore, predicted that the Tribune would soon tuck tail and run, but the Times had underrated its competitor.

Young Stovall was not only endowed with ambition and determination, but with more than an ordinary quota of business initiative and above all the faculty of making friends. He made friends particularly with the members of the county commission, inviting them to use his office as headquarters when in town. This eventually led to the Tribune getting the delinquent tax list, a rich advertising plum. Another exhibition of his shrewdness followed when he secured the contract to



publish liquor petitions, which in those days were long drawn-out affairs taking up a full column and sometimes almost two, through several issues. Stovall went to the man who practically dominated the saloons and told him if he would influence their proprietors to give him the advertising he would make them a special rate and publish this gentleman's petition free. This inducement turned the trick and hundreds of dollars more poured into the Tribune coffers.

But all was not smooth sailing when the young man's expenses got beyond control. As his biographer continues:

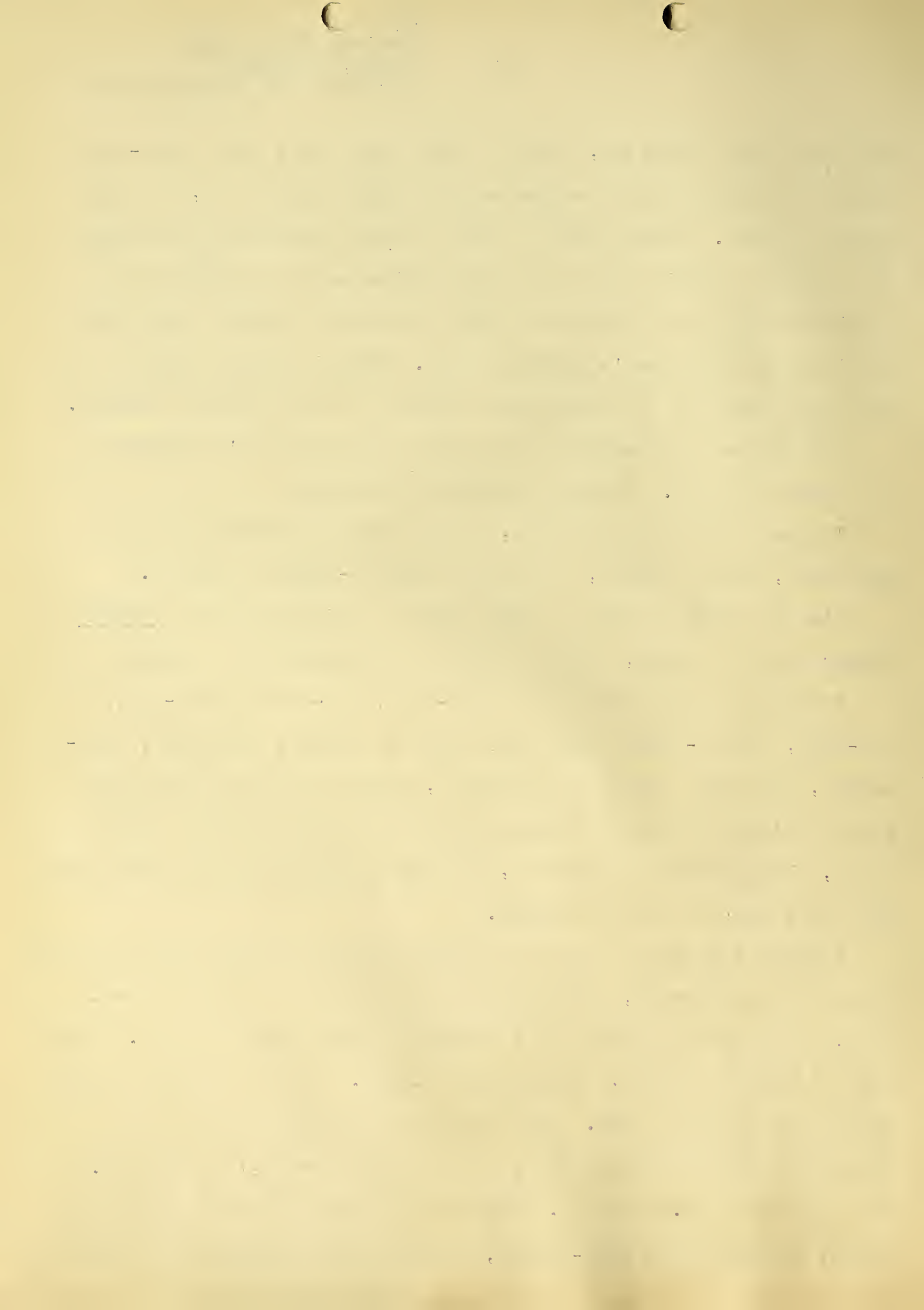
"Tampa, to the young editor, seemed made up entirely of cold shoulders, marble hearts, icy stares and non-opening pockets."

His own words written in 1925 when he relinquished the Tribune temporarily to others, gives a picture of his early struggles:

"I started the Tribune as a four-page, six-column, six-day, hob-tail, boiler-plate daily and worked as editor, solicitor, type-setter, pressman, circulation manager, besides holding about every other position in the office, doing more work than all the other force, which included only four, performing from 18 to 20 hours every day for a score or more of years."

Perhaps the darkest day in the early career of the young publisher came when the sheriff, descending upon the Tribune and its modest home, padlocked and pasted an attachment notice upon the door. This meant missing an issue, perhaps many issues. To the average man it might have meant the end. But when Stovall came down and found himself and staff locked out he was only nonplussed, not subdued.

"It must come out!" said he. Then crossing the street to a hardware store, he borrowed a nail-puller, and with this proceeded to draw the



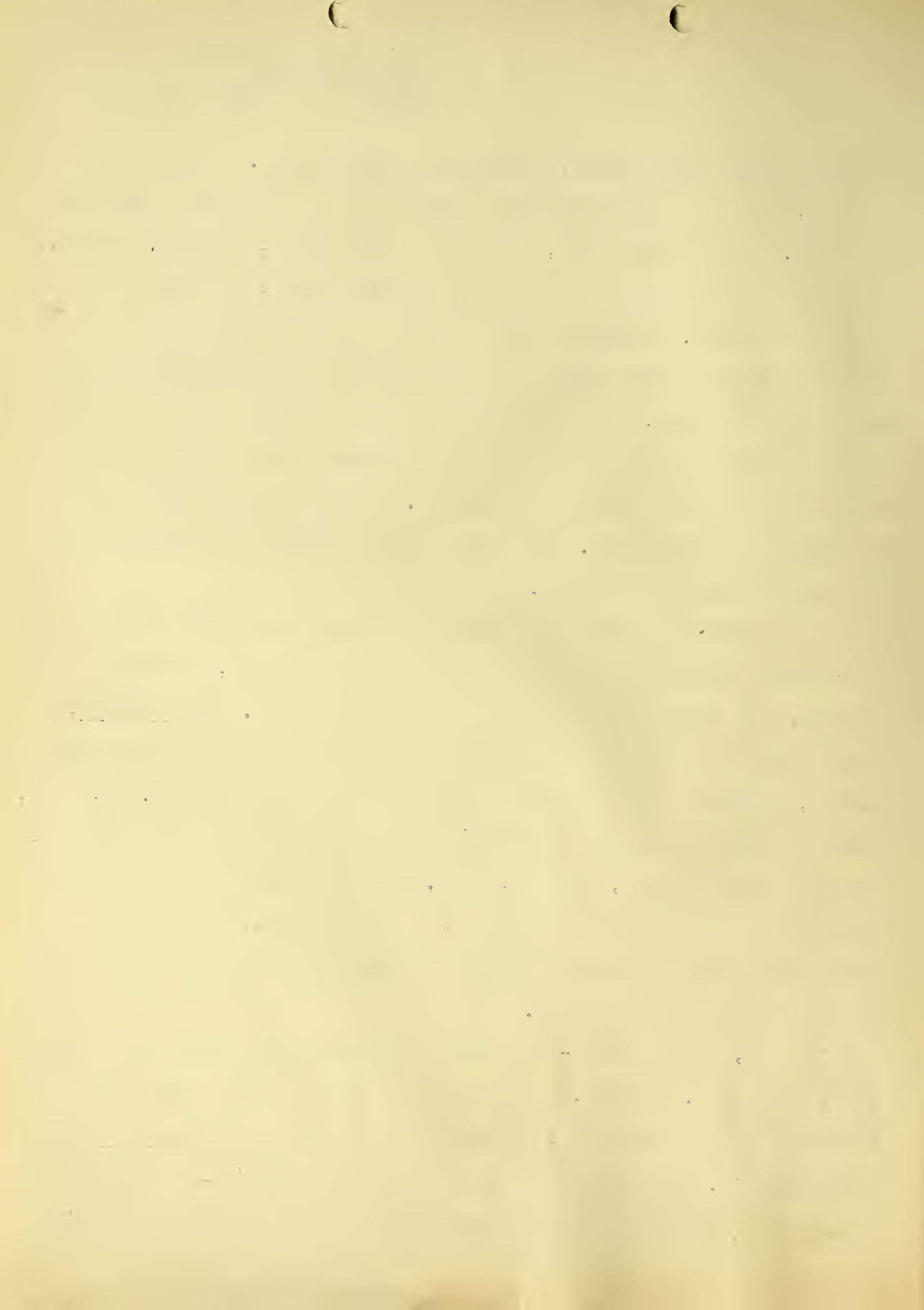
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Corione White Lamm
Tampa, Florida
Birth of the Tampa Tribune

nails from the door hinges, leaving the lock intact. He got out a paper, but the next morning was served with an order for contempt of court. A bit frightened, he went to his friend, Peter G. Knight, then a young lawyer at the beginning of his career, and asked him to take his case. Knight pointed out that he, himself, was at sword's point with the powers of the town and to take the case would mean certain defeat. But Knight advised his young friend to appear without counsel and put on a show of innocence and ignorance, with a few tears thrown in for good measure. This strategy worked, and the charge was dismissed. The claim was eventually settled and the Tribune continued on its way.

The townspeople by now had begun to respect and admire the courage and fighting qualities of the young publisher, business mounted, and prosperity came from around the corner. The Tribune, which had been changed from a daily to a weekly during the pressing period, announced on its editorial page of the issue of Dec. 22, 1894, that the paper once more would become a daily starting with the first issue of the new year, January, 1895, and from then on it not only maintained an unbroken schedule in the daily field, but built a circulation that for years exceeded the combined total of all dailies on the West Coast of Florida.

In 1925, after thirty-two years of watching his paper and Tampa grow, Wallace F. Stovall, then Colonel Stovall, having been made Colonel by three governors, relinquished control of the Tribune to a new ownership. On that occasion he remarked: "Thirty-two years is a long time, but during that period the Tribune never missed an issue



and has been under the same management continuously."

Important dates with masthead changes during the period from Jan. 1, 1893 to Jan. 1, 1895 include:

Friday, Jan. 5, 1894---Vol. I--No. 91--the first issue to leave off the masthead "Published every day except Monday and weekly."

Friday, March 9, 1894, Vol. I--No. 100--The name was changed from The Morning Tribune to The Tampa Tribune.

Friday, March 23, 1894 started Vol. II--No. I.

In the issue of Dec. 28, 1894, Vol. II--No. 41--immediately under the masthead appeared the following, announcing the resumption of the Tribune as a daily:

"Our Daily Tribune"

"Believing there is plenty of room in Tampa for a real live, energetic, fearless morning paper, The Tribune Publishing Company will begin issuing a daily edition on Tuesday morning next."

Approx. 10,000 words
January, 1938

Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida

RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS

(Historical material and other excerpts from the Tampa
Morning Tribune of 1919)

Here is an outline of events and conditions that formed the
background of the Tribune's news and editorials of 1919:

In Florida and throughout the Nation, this period immediately
following the World War was a confused era of attempts at recovery,
reconstruction, and return toward a normal life. These efforts
were hampered, however, by the shut-down of thousands of war-time
industries, general labor unrest, and topsy-turvy economic and social
conditions.

Thousands of officers and soldiers were limping back from "over
there," dazed by war, and trying in a bewildered way to readjust
themselves in a still chaotic world.

Prohibition was in effect in most states, and bootlegging was be-
coming a national industry. Huge industrial strikes threatened
everywhere. In the South Negro soldiers had returned with new ideas
of social liberty acquired from association with European races that
drew no color line. As a result they attempted familiarities with
white women in America, bringing on a series of bloody race riots.

High cost of living was a nationally acute problem. Prices of
food, clothing and other necessities had risen to unprecedented
heights. Floods of bitter complaints from consumers blamed "conscienceless
profiteers," and their tone was daily reflected in newspaper present-
ments.

Germany, with the Kaiser expatriated to Holland and a republican government started, was in the throes of a revolution. In Italy Gabrielle D'Annunzio, eccentric Italian poet and adventurer, with his band of revolutionists, had seized Fiume, and the throne of Italy's king was tottering.

President Wilson, returned from seven months of European peace efforts in failing health, while Congress continued to haggle over the League of Nations, terms of the Versailles peace treaty with Germany, labor legislation and the high cost of living.

In Tampa, cigar manufacturing was being extensively resumed after the war-time slump, but emergency shipbuilding at the plants of the Oscar Daniels Company and Tampa Dock Company was approaching an end.

D. B. McKay was mayor of Tampa. Fred Thomas was chief of police, and A. J. White served as sheriff of Hillsborough County. Park Trammel and Duncan U. Fletcher were U. S. Senators from Florida, while Herbert A. Drane represented this district in Congress.

The Tribune of that year averaged 16 pages of seven columns daily and 24 to 48 pages on Sunday. The plant was at Tampa and Madison Streets.

Under the front-page title line was this information: "Twenty-sixth Year. The only paper in Florida printing every line of the full day and night report of the Associated Press."

The masthead presented the following personnel:

W. F. Stovall, Editor and President; W. O. Stovall, Vice-pres.; J. H. Mason, Treas.; J. S. Mims, Secretary.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT: Robert W. Bentley, Managing Editor;

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Tampa Tribune, 1919

J. L. McWhorter, Associate Editor; S. S. Matlack, City Editor.

This bold statement appeared below the personnel list: "The Tribune guarantees a larger circulation in the City, in the Suburbs, in the County, than any five papers in this section combined."

The Sunday edition carried a magazine section and two pages of colored comics. Sports and society each had a page or more.

Advertising columns were well patronized. Among principal advertisers were retail merchants, automobile dealers and moving picture theaters. Cuts of women's clothes still showed skirts down to the ankles, and extremely full, swathing the form in voluminous drapes. Ladies' hats showed wide, drooping brims. Men's coats were wasp-waisted, with flaring skirts, and trousers, very narrow at the bottom.

Illustrations of the newest automobile models revealed flat, square cornered tops and high, angular bodies--queer looking machines as compared to the streamlined and turtle-backed effects nearly twenty years later.

Picture theaters advertised such old-time favorites as William S. Hart, Fatty Arbuckle, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, Mack Sennett comedies and Theda Bara, the sinuous vamp.

TAMPA GOES DRY.--Beginning with the issue of January 1, 1919, Page 1 told of an eventful day in Tampa, and a sorrowful one to many. Under a special act of the Florida legislature state prohibition went into effect at six o'clock p. m. that day. A local story related how the saloons and liquor stores in the city were frantically auctioning their stocks to beat the six o'clock deadline. Crowds of bibulous

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Tampa Tribune, 1919

Tampans thronged the sidewalks in front of drink emporiums where the sales were being held, trying to buy enough wet goods to last them as long as possible into the (supposedly) arid future. By the stroke of six everything was sold out, and the crowds went home, pockets bulging with bottles. Some went with suit cases, baby carriages, wheelbarrows and autos laden with precious packages of whiskey, wine and beer.

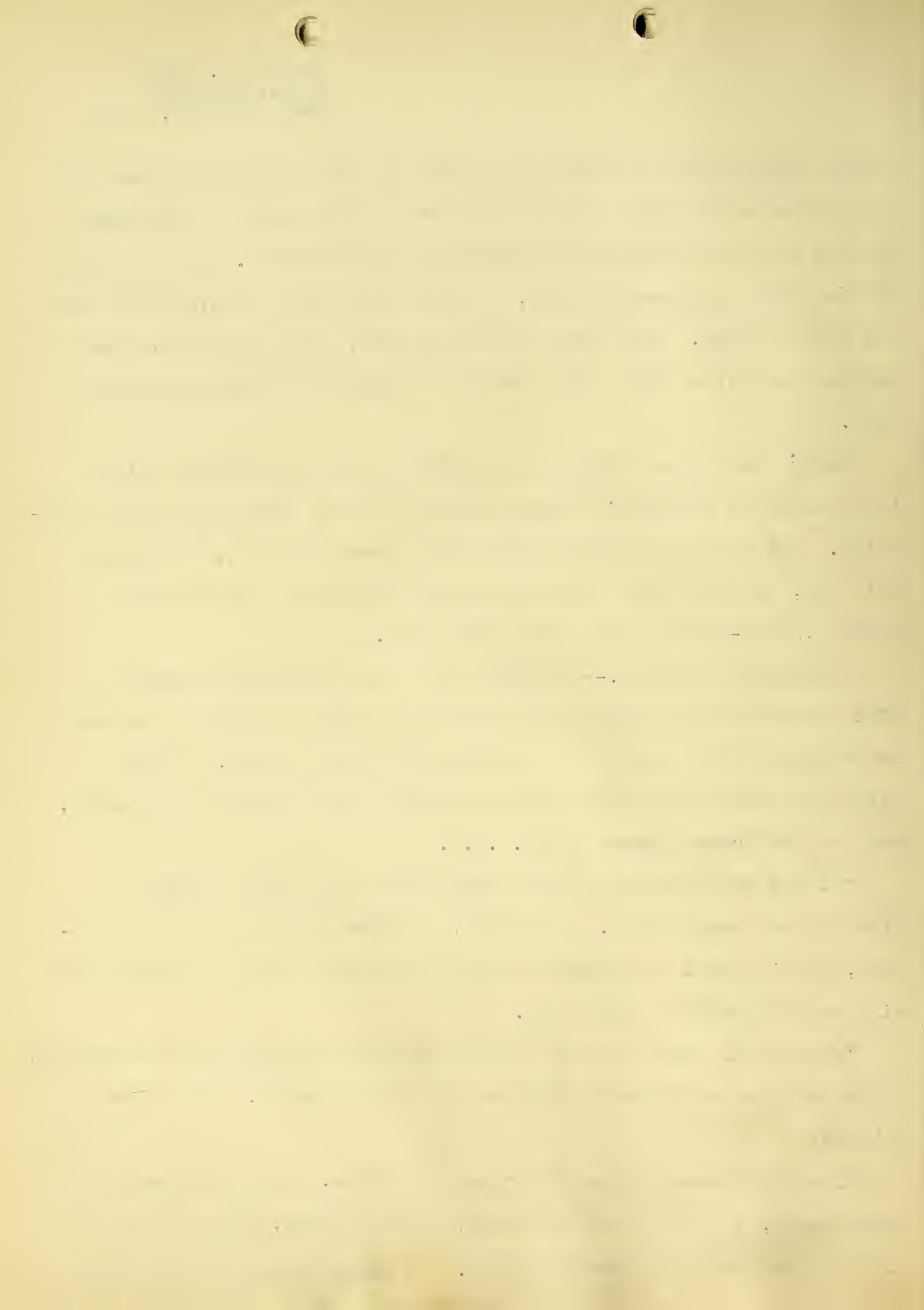
Under the law no intoxicating drinks could be purchased after that except on a doctor's prescription, and only then under much difficulty. But an army of bootleggers had foreseen and provided against this day, and were soon circulating with offerings of moonshine whiskey, bath-tub gin and home-brewed beer.

GRAPEFRUIT BISCUITS.--On Page 6 was this interesting comment:
"The Tarpon Springs Leader has discovered a woman there who has been luxuriating in the finest of biscuits and griddle cakes, and the neighbors have been envious of her success until she told the secret, and now the Leader passes it on. . . .

"It has been discovered that sour milk is no longer needed in Florida for bread making. Seriously, the discovery is one of importance, for it means an adjunct to the kitchen and an aid to health that will be of greatest worth to us.

"The Leader gives several recipes for bread with Florida Grapefruit, but we confine ourselves to the one for griddle cakes, which is as follows:

"One half measuring cup of grapefruit juice, one level teaspoon baking soda, a little salt and sugar, one cup water, enough self-rising flour to make a smooth batter. In using ordinary flour add a



teaspoon baking powder to each cup."

A summary of local accomplishments during the previous year (1918), published as a feature of this New Year's Day edition, included the following items:

Two out of every seven couples married in Hillsborough County during 1918 were divorced. (Page 8).

More than a million cigars were manufactured in Tampa every day of the year, the 12-months' output being 365,069,928. (Page 8).

Clearing house figures for the year showed clearances of \$73,926,741, a gain of 14 million over 1917. Building permits were \$390,000, a decrease of more than 50 per cent. of the 1917 total. (Page 8).

The county in December had voted \$875,000 bonds for road building, and plans were being made for 54 miles of new paved highways in Hillsborough County. (Page 8).

A statistical article on Page 8 reviewing the growth of the city's school system stated that 30 years ago (in 1888) old school records showed only one white school in Tampa and the total enrollment 266 pupils, while in 1918 the schools enrolled more than 6,000 boys and girls.

Crime statistics for 1918 revealed 17 capital crimes committed in the county. (Page 8).

Shipbuilding in Tampa for the year employed an average of 1,600 workers with a weekly payroll exceeding \$45,000. (Page 8).

Water-borne commerce totals for the year did not include the month of December, but for the 11 months of 1918 they were: Phosphate shipments, 344,587 tons. Water commerce value, \$20,519,382. Vessels in, 532--out, 523. Tonnage in, 422,766--out, 404,146. (Page 8).

There were more deaths than births in 1918; the former totaling 1,989 and the latter 1,181.

TAMPA SAW "NORTHERN LIGHTS."--A summary of the United States weather bureau reports for Tampa for 1918 included a statement that the Aurora Borealis or "Northern Lights" were visible from Tampa that year for the first time in the history of the weather bureau station in the city: "The northern lights were observed on March 7, and so bright was the reflection and so unusual the occurrence that people all over this section were wondering if all Georgia was afire."

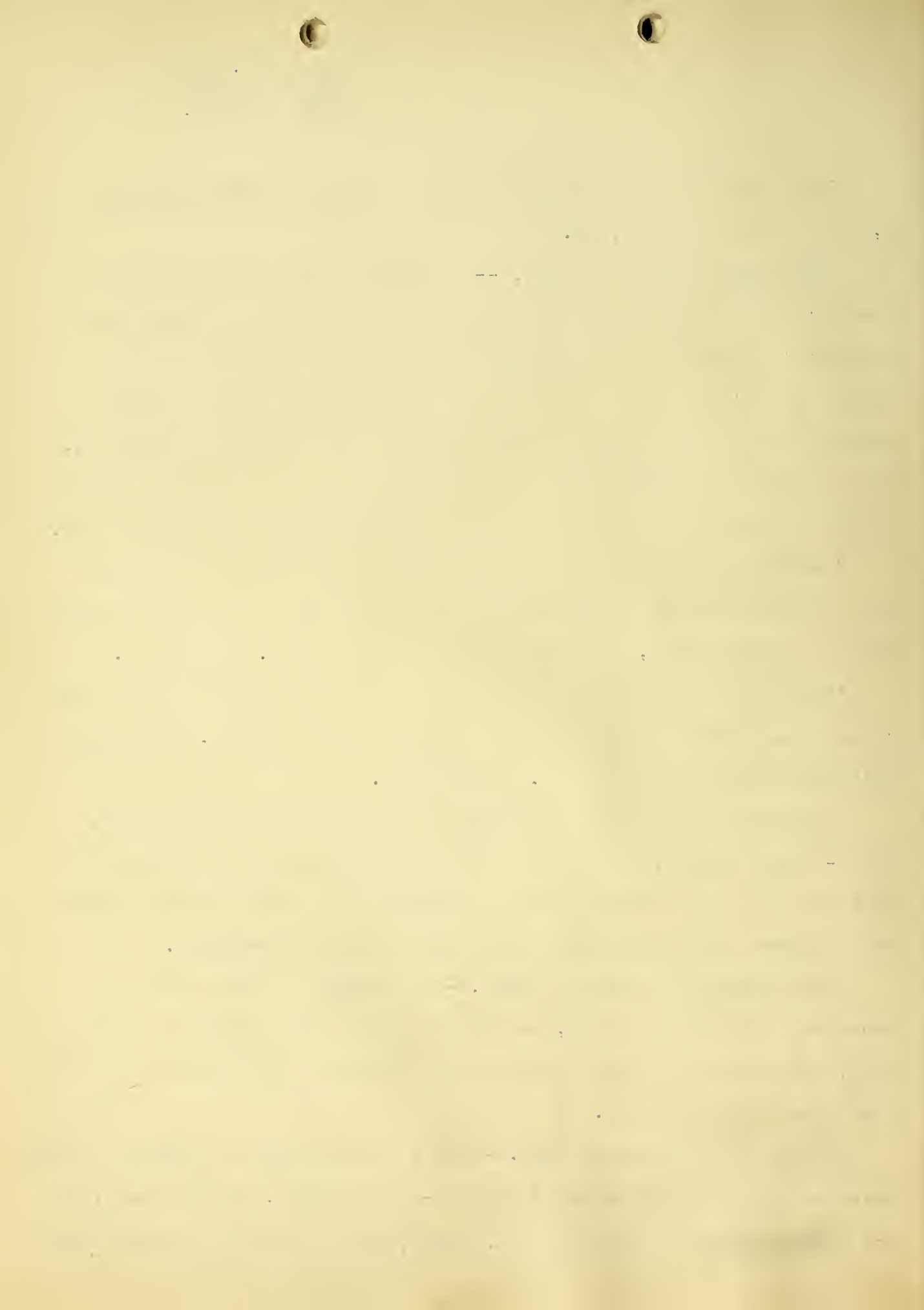
"Another notable weather event of the year was the breaking of the absolute maximum temperature record for Tampa, which has stood at 96 for a dozen years, when the mercury soared to 97.5 on June 3.

"The year was remarkably dry; in fact only one year in 70 of rain records has shown a lower total of rainfall for the year. The year 1918 was the driest on record." (Page 8) .

A foreign cable on Page 8 reported that Ignace Jan Paderewski, world-famed pianist, had made a triumphal entry into the Polish city of Posen and was enthusiastically acclaimed as a hero by the populace, who proposed a Polish Republic with Paderewski as President.

GOLF CHAMPION LOCATES IN TAMPA.--The January 8 issue, Page 9, announced that Walter Hagen, nationally-known golf champion, of New York, had arrived in Tampa to assume his duties as professional with the Palma Ceia golf club.

WOULD-BE GROOM FORGETS NAME.--Page 5 of the issue of January 9, 1919 revealed this odd incident: "The half-dozen clerks, more or less, of the office of County Judge John C. White, do everything in their power



to smooth the matrimonial pavement ahead of applicants for marriage licenses, but yesterday the entire crew threw up its hands and surrendered.

"The puzzle walked into the office in the form of a young negro, holding out \$2 and asking for a marriage license.

"Name?" asked the little brunette clerk.

"The negro answered 'Jeff', but that was as far as he could get. Jeff is what people called him, he said, but the rest of his name he didn't know. Neither did he know the name of his bride-to-be, so the girl sent him home to ask his mamma.

"Jeff came back a little while later and said he had found out that his name was Merridy Franklin, 22 years old, and the holder of the orange blossoms was Annie Roberts, 28."

A New York dispatch on Page 1 of January 9 issue told that 15,000 harbor workers there had walked out on strike to enforce their demand for higher wages. They were employed on ferry boats, tugs and lighters. Page 3 of the same issue related: "With the snows of 95 years sifted over his hair, S. F. Pratt, of Boston, who is spending the winter in Tampa, is still young in spirits and energy, and so he has joined the Tampa Y.M.C.A. as an active member. . . . He has spent several winters in Tampa, and each year he comes down he takes out an active membership in the Y.M.C.A."

The issue of January 12, 1919, on Page 7, contained news from Washington stating that Walker D. Hines, United States director-general of railroads in America, was advocating five more years of Government control of railroads. (The Government had taken control of the

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Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919

nation's railroads as a war-time emergency measure at the beginning of the World War).

100-YEAR OLD NEGRO WEDS.--On Page 14 of the same paper it was related that John Mitchell, a 100-year old Tampa Negro, was married for the third time, to Cora Holman, aged 50. Claiming to have been 42 years old when the Civil War began, John was still strong and active, it was stated. "He does a full day's work every day, with a man's sized ax, splitting firewood and driving teams for W. H. Goodwin, at his woodyard at Nineteenth Avenue and Thirtieth Street."

FLORIDA SOLDIERS OVERSEAS.--A front-page dispatch from Washington, in the Tribune of January 15, 1919, said: "Of the southern troops overseas, men of only two divisions, the Thirty-first and Thirty-ninth, are to be returned in the near future. Part of the Thirty-ninth (Dixie) Division, composed of Georgia, Alabama and Florida soldiers already have sailed, and the remainder have been placed on priority for early return."

JOBS FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS.--A local news item on Page 16 read: "R. L. Wilson, local secretary of the United States Employment Service, stated yesterday that little difficulty is being found in securing their old places back for returning soldiers here; nearly every Tampa firm having agreed to take back its former employees."

PACKERS MAKE HUGE PROFITS.--Washington news on Page 1 of January 18 issue, reporting a Federal investigation of profits of the "Big Five" meat packers, said: "Stuart Chase, an expert accountant employed by the Federal Trade Commission, told the senate agricultural committee today in presenting figures to show that profits of the five big

packing concerns had doubled and trebled during the war: "Profits as high as 267.7 per cent were made by packers, it was said.

THOUSANDS STARVING.--Page 5 of January 18 issue presented a proclamation of Mayor D. B. McKay calling on Tampanians to contribute toward relief of the starving people in the Near East. Thousands in Armenia, Syria and Greece were reported dying of starvation, and some were resorting to cannibalism. The local drive for funds was part of a national campaign for \$30,000,000. Tampa's quota of \$30,000 was later subscribed.

February 14, 1919. On Page 2 Washington news reported: "The Sixty-fourth regiment, coast artillery, which includes a large number of southern men, many from South Florida, is among the units on three transports and the battleships Rhode Island and Virginia which sailed from France with 470 officers and 13,000 men."

On February 17, Page 2 announced opening of the South Florida Fair for its fourteenth annual exhibit, to continue six days. Horse races, open to Florida-bred horses only, were a feature of the fair.

February 19, it was announced on Page 11 that the Boston American League baseball team would come to Tampa on March 15 to begin a 30-day training period at Plant athletic field.

BIGGEST SHIP LAUNCHED AT TAMPA.--On Page 1 of the issue of February 23, 1919 was an account of the launching at the shipyards of the Oscar Daniels Company in Tampa of the 9,500-ton steamship Yomachichi, said to be the largest ship ever built south of the Virginia Capes. More than 10,000 persons saw the launching. Mrs. Oscar Daniels, wife of the president of the concern, christened the ship.

JOHN WANNAMAKER PRAISED TAMPA.--On February 27, 1919, as announced in the Tribune of that date, John Wannamaker, nationally known as the "merchant prince," of Philadelphia, arrived in Tampa on his yacht Gadfly and was quartered at the Tampa Bay Hotel. His yacht was moored at the hotel dock. The great department store owner praised Tampa and the West Coast of Florida in the following terms:

"Everything about the city impresses one with the idea that it is destined for growth. Your streets are wide and beautiful, your buildings are good, and the fact that Tampa already has some connections with regular shipping lines places her in a position for development. Your great hotel I consider the best in Florida, with the possible exception of the Belleair.

"This year I found the West Coast more lovely and agreeable than ever. I see a great future for places like Sarasota, Fort Myers and Tampa."

OLD-TIME EDITOR TAKES OVER.--Page B-7 of the Tribune of February 28, 1919, presented this, from Ocala: "With the war over and the business manager able to return to his old post, the Ocala Banner, Florida's oldest weekly newspaper, Frank Harris, for 50 years its editor, and Frank Harris, jr., have taken over the Banner. The paper was sold last April to S. M. Lummus. The following announcement will appear in tomorrow's issue: 'Under an arrangement that is satisfactory to all parties concerned, the Banner, with this issue, is returned to its original owners, Mr. Frank Harris and Mr. Frank Harris, jr. (Signed): S. M. Lummus.' "

BILLY SUNDAY HOLDS BIG REVIVAL.--The news feature of Page 1 of the issue of March 19, 1919 announced the arrival in Tampa of Billy Sunday,

renowned evangelist and former big-league ball player, to hold a 30-day series of revival meetings in a huge tent at the fair grounds.

Tampa must have been strongly religious-minded at that time, or a lot of backsliding had occurred, as leading citizens and civic bodies had united weeks before in an urgent invitation for the famous preacher to come here, and his coming had been enthusiastically heralded by the press.

He was welcomed at the Union Station by a large crowd, including a special committee of city officials and prominent citizens headed by Mayor D. B. McKay. Among others of the committee were Dr. L. A. Bize, president of the Citizens' National Bank, Perry G. Wall, ex-mayor, Col. W. O. Stovall, publisher Tampa Morning Tribune, A. E. Clewis, bank president, Senator Doyle Carlton, and a group of Tampa ministers.

TAMPA BOARD OF TRADE ELECTS.--Issue of March 19, Page 6, told of the election of officers at the annual meeting of the Board of Trade. Charles H. Brown was elected president and Dr. L. A. Bize, vice-president. L. P. Dickie was retained as secretary.

VETERANS ORGANIZE.--News on Page 5, March 24, told of the formation of Tampa's first organization of war veterans as follows: "With the assistance of delegates from St. Petersburg and John J. Pingham of this city, veteran members of the organization, a Tampa post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was organized yesterday afternoon. . . . It was unanimously voted that the Tampa post be named the Hatton and Gillett post in honor of two of Tampa's prominent young men, Lieut. J. W. Hatton and Tod Gillett, who made the supreme sacrifice." (Both were killed in action).

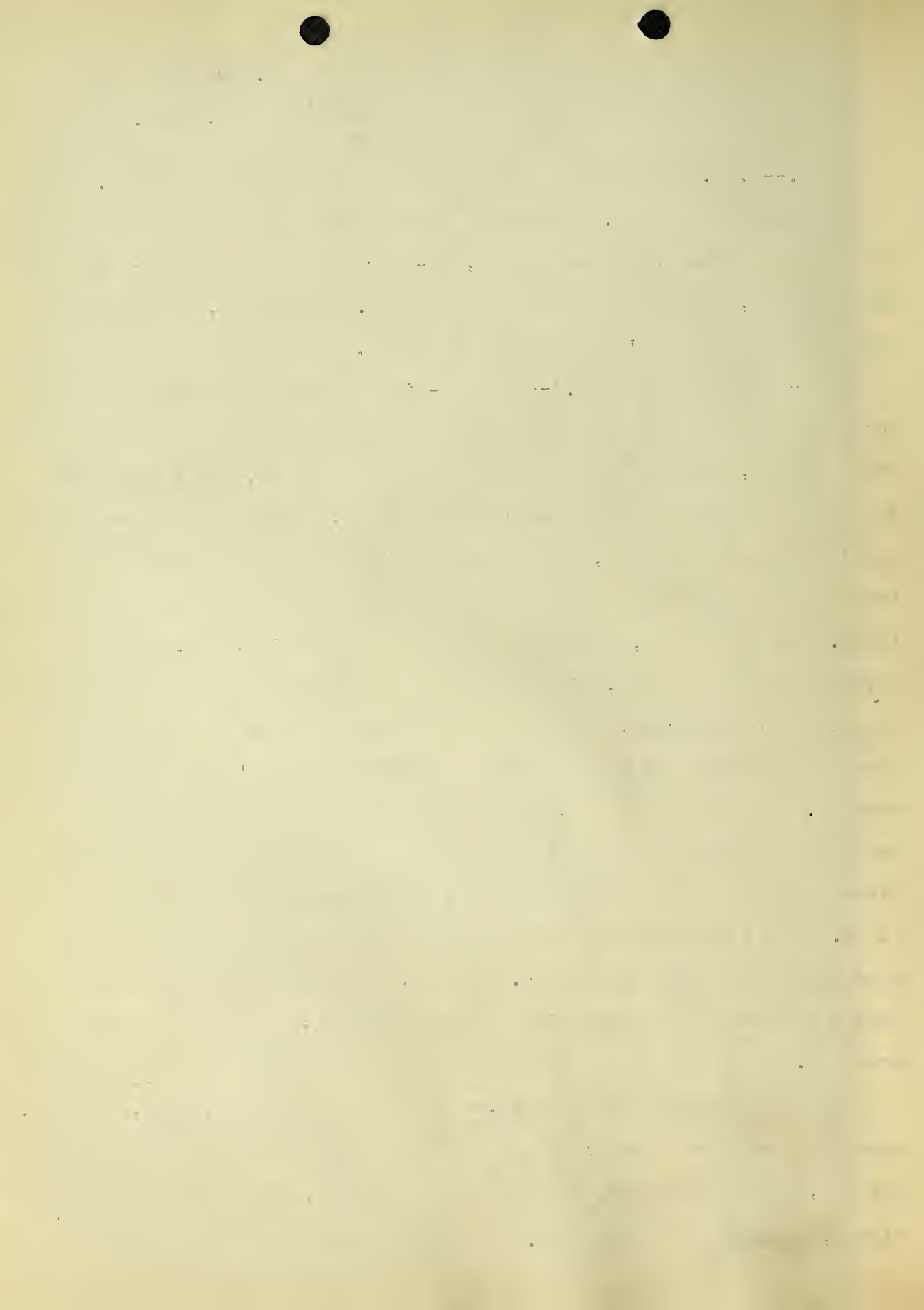
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Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919.

NOTE.--R. F. Mellick was later elected commander of the post.

A news item from St. Petersburg on Page 4 of the issue of March 28 told that John Wannamaker, 81-year old merchant prince of Philadelphia, then visiting in Tampa and St. Petersburg, had caught 146 kingfish in a day's angling in the Gulf.

"DAY-LIGHT SAVING TIME."--The war-time measure of starting the working day an hour earlier to conserve daylight was resented by many Tampan, as seen by this local item of March 30, 1919: "Endless confusion in all business affairs of the city, together with the possibility of accidents, is the outlook in Tampa as the result of two different kinds of time which will be observed here beginning today. The railroads, telegraph offices, post office, etc., being government institutions, will observe the daylight saving provision of the act of Congress, and in accordance therewith all clocks of these institutions were set forward one hour at two o'clock this morning. On the other hand, Mayor McKay has promised the Tampa Merchants Association that he will not have the city hall clock set forward according to the Federal law, but will allow it to remain as it is." (The merchants association had voted by a large majority against the daylight saving act. Stores, banks and other business houses decided to continue with the regular time, at least for the present).

WORLD CHAMPIONS PLAY IN TAMPA.--The paper of April 4, 1919, Page 10, gave an account of a major league baseball game between the Boston Red Sox, world champions, then training in Tampa, and the New York Giants, training at Clearwater. It was the first of a series of



exhibition games, played at Plant Field in Tampa. The Giants won, in a score of 5 to 3. Babe Ruth, even then the star of baseball, knocked a homer clear over the race track in the second inning. Manager McGraw, of the Giants, declared: "I believe it was the longest hit I ever saw."

MASONIC HOME OPENED.--From April 8 issue, Page 3: (Dispatch from St. Petersburg): "With impressive ceremonies under the auspices of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Florida the new Masonic Home and orphanage on Coffee Pot bayou (St. Petersburg) was formally consecrated and dedicated here this afternoon in the presence of a notable gathering of Masons. In addition to the Masons of Florida who gathered here there were many from other states, scores of the winter visitors here being members of the great order.

"The Masonic Home is a large brick building on the bayou north of St. Petersburg and reached by a brick road and a street car line. The building was originally erected for the Southland Seminary. This project failed, and the building passed into the hands of a company which converted it into a hotel and ran it as such one season. The Masonic grand lodge bought the property from the hotel company. It is completely furnished and is very handsome in its appointments. The building will easily accommodate 200 to 300."

FISHERMAN BROKE RECORD.--An April 10 item from Sarasota said that all records for one-man fishing in Florida were broken when George Blackburn of Sarasota caught 2,176 pounds of kingfish in 10 hours with hook and line. The fish were sold by Mr. Blackburn to John Savarese and Company, wholesale fish dealers, for six cents a pound, which netted him \$130.56 for his days work.

April 15, 1919. A local brevity announced that the new city directory, just issued, gave Tampa a population of 78,085, a growth of nearly 4,000 since the previous year's directory was published.

April 19, Page 1. A Tallahassee dispatch told that the State senate had passed the equal suffrage bill providing submission of a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage to the people of Florida.

FIFTH LIBERTY LOAN OFFERED.--Issue of April 20 urged Tampanians to buy more liberty bonds. A drive was on to sell the county's quota of \$2,695,100 of this, the fifth issue by the Government to help pay war costs. The entire amount of this offering for the Nation was set at \$4,500,000,000. The bonds were in denominations from \$50 to \$500 and paid 3 3/4 per cent interest.

S. S. HOOSAC LAUNCHED AT TAMPA.--Page 11 of May 14 told of the completion of another large steamship at Tampa. The S. S. Hoosac, a wooden vessel, built by the Tampa Dock Company, was launched the day before, having been built for the United States Shipping Board. The ship was a 3,500-ton vessel of the Ferris type, 286 feet long, 46 foot beam, with triple expansion engines. Mrs. A. J. Knight, wife of the president of the Tampa Dock Company, acted as sponsor to christen the ship.

This company had already built and launched three sister ships of the Hoosac. They were the Namecki, Agria, and Coulter. In all, nine ships had been built in Tampa to date, since the World War started.

The Tampa Kiwanis Club was organized on May 15, 1919, according to the Tribune of the next day. The club was formed at a luncheon meeting held at the Hillsboro Hotel. Officers elected were: A. B. McMullen, president; R. F. Berry, secretary. Con O. Lee was deputy

organizer.

ARCADIA AVIATOR BROKE RECORD.--On Page 1 of issue of May 17 was this news story from Arcadia:

"The world's loop-the-loop record for air flyers was broken at Carlstrom Field near this city this morning. Not only was the world record broken, but it was completely smashed, Lieut. Ralph Johnson making 457 loops, 136 more than the previous high record. The feat of Lieut. Johnson was witnessed by scores of flyers and army officers and by many civilians." (Carlstrom field was a training ground for army aviators during the World War, and was still in use by the U. S. army).

GERMAN SUBMARINE AT TAMPA.--May 22, 1919. This on Page 11:

"A reformed Hun 'sea-slinker' slid into the harbor yesterday afternoon and moored at the southern docks in the presence of a large and intensely interested crowd gathered to witness the first appearance in Tampa waters of a German submarine, although the UB-88 is now manned by an American crew and flies the stars and stripes.

"However, it has not been altered in the slightest degree since it was turned over to the victorious allies, and it has a bloody record of no less than 16 ships sent to the bottom since it was sent out on its career of frightfulness.

"The UB-88 is 185 feet in length and is of 800 tons. It carries ten torpedoes, five in the tubes and five in racks; carries one gun in addition to its torpedo tubes."

GREATEST HERO OF WORLD WAR.--Page 1 of May 24 issue, carried a New York story of the huge reception tendered in that city to Sergeant Alvin C. York, called the "greatest hero of the World War." He

Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919

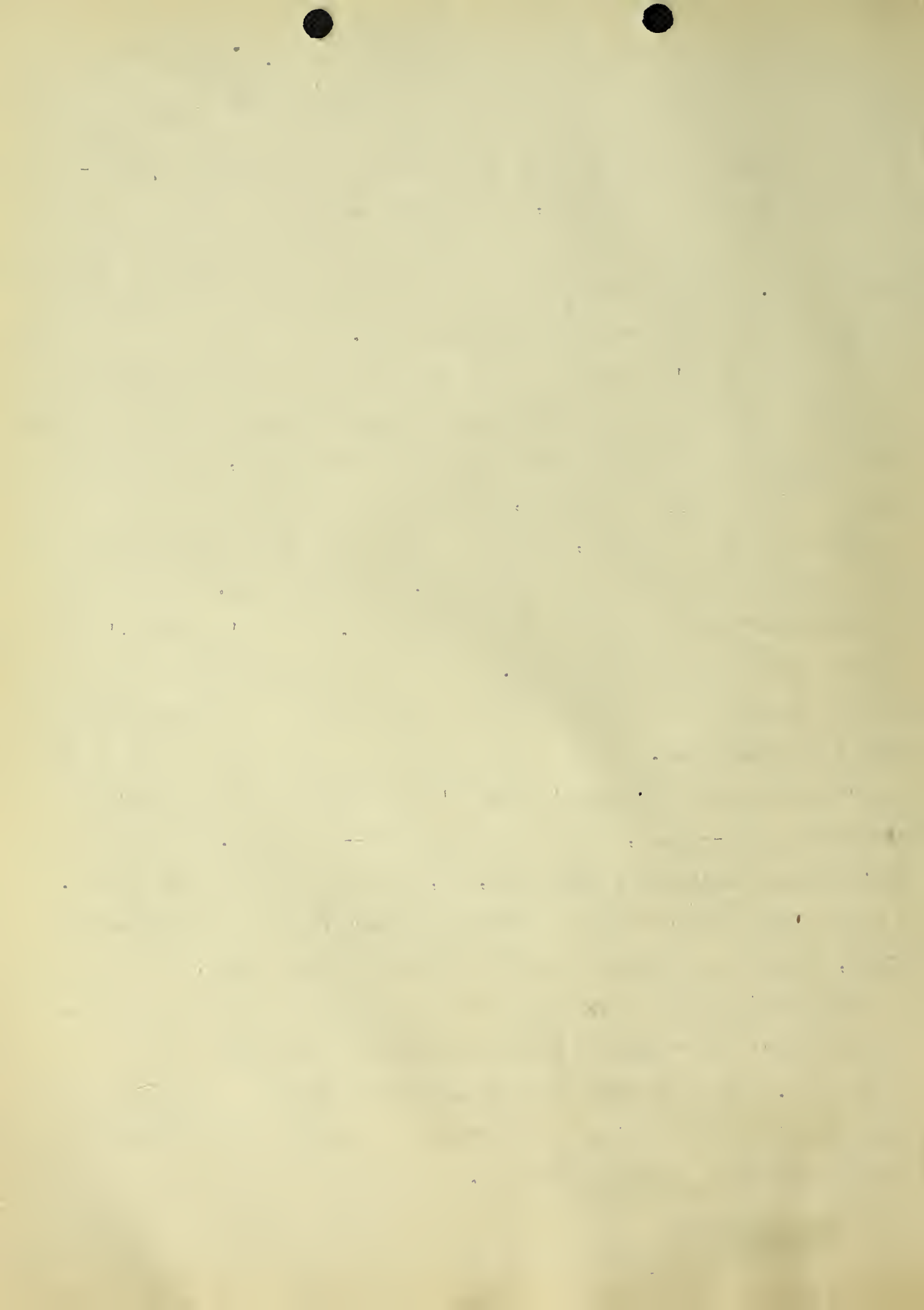
received the Congressional medal of honor for the mightiest single-handed achievement of the war, in which he killed 20 Germans, took 132 more prisoner and put 36 enemy machine guns out of business in the Argonne. At his home York was an elder in the Church of Christ in the little Tennessee village of Pell Mall.

THE GOVERNMENT'S TERRIBLE SECRET that might have exterminated the entire German army had the war continued a little longer was described in this startling news story from Washington, appearing on Page 1 of the Tribune of May 25, 1919:

"Guarded night and day, and far out of reach on a pedestal at the interior department exposition here, is a tiny vial. It contains a specimen of the deadliest poison ever known. It is 'Lewisite,' product of an American scientist. It was what Germany escaped by signing the armistice before all the resources of the United States were turned upon her.

"Ten airplanes carrying 'Lewisite' would have wiped out every vestige of life--human, animal and vegetable--in Berlin. A single day's output would snuff out the 4,000,000 lives on Manhattan Island. A single drop poured into the palm of the hand would penetrate to the blood, reach the heart and kill the victim in great agony.

"What was coming to Germany may be imagined by the fact that when the armistice was signed it was being manufactured at the rate of ten tons a day. Three thousand tons of this most terrible instrument ever conceived for killing would have been ready for business on the American front in France on March 1.



"Lewisite" is another one of the big secrets of the war just leaking out. It was developed in the bureau of mines by Prof. W. Lee Lewis, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, who took a commission as a captain in the army. It was manufactured in a specially built plant near Cleveland, called the 'mousetrap,' because every workman who entered the stockade entered on agreement not to leave the eleven-acre space until the war was won. This was to protect the secret.

Work on the plant was completed 18 days after the bureau of mines had completed its experiments. The other preparations to bring the gas into the war went forward with like speed, but the armistice prevented the Germans from ever experiencing a full realization of what they had begun when they turned their primitive gasses on the Canadian troops in Flanders in the early days of the war.

"Experts are certain nobody will want to steal the sample. Everybody at the exposition showing what Secretary Lane's department did and is doing, keeps as far away from it as possible."

LEGION POST ORGANIZED.--Page 6 of May 27 issue recorded organization of Tampa's first American Legion post. 'Liberty' post was the name temporarily chosen at the organization meeting which was held in the criminal court room at the court house. Many army and navy veterans attended. The meeting was presided over by Captain Morris M. Givens, and E. B. Priest was chosen as the first post commander.

TAMPAN DIES, AGED 112.--Allen Dixon Douglas, who lived in the Tampa vicinity for nearly a century, died at Dover at the age of 112, according to Page 7 of the Tribune of June 25, 1919. Relatives stated he was five years old at the time of the War of 1812. He was

born in Georgia in 1807 and came to what is now Tampa in his early youth, when there were only two houses here. He had been married three times and was survived by five daughters, 45 grandchildren and more than 40 great grandchildren. His five surviving children were: Mrs. Texas R. Crosley, 2901 Jefferson Street, Tampa; Mrs. J. M. Morgan, Tampa; Mrs. Martin Appin, Sydney; Mrs. W. K. Wingate, Dover; Mrs. Needham Stanley, Plant City.

It was said that he helped drive the Seminoles out of this section, and fought through the Civil War under Captain Lesley, of Tampa. He attributed his long life to clean living and abstinence from alcohol and tobacco.

PEACE TREATY SIGNED.--The great world-event that millions of all nations had anxiously awaited for months--signing the peace treaty--had finally taken place in the Hall of Mirrors at the Versailles palace, as related under huge headlines on Page 1 of the Tribune of June 29, 1919. Tampa received the news with great rejoicing.

Repeated deadline dates had been set by the allies for Germany to sign, but they had always begged for more time. By tearful pleas alternating with defiant remonstrances over the treaty terms, the Teuton leaders had finally wrung from the unwilling allies the last possible concession. Then they reluctantly and sullenly agreed to sign.

According to the Associated Press cable of the story, the momentous event of signing the treaty was a brief and simple ceremony. Premier Clemenceau of France called the session to order. The signing began with Dr. Herman Mueller and Johannes Bell, the German signatories. President Wilson, first of the allied delegates, signed next. Lloyd

George signed for England and M. Clemenceau for France. Plenipotentiaries of the other allied nations followed with their signatures. President Wilson sailed the next day for the United States.

German newspapers, quoted as commenting on the signing of the historic document, were said to have called it "just another scrap of paper."

BOY SWAM TAMPA BAY.--Page 16 of the issue of September 16 related that Joe Plaskett, 19-year old reporter for the St. Petersburg Independent, swam across Tampa Bay from St. Petersburg to Port Tampa, a distance of 10 miles. He was accompanied by friends in a rowboat. The swim was six hours long and he used the crawl stroke all the way.

DISTURBED CONDITIONS.--A survey of the Tribune's headlines from October 1 to 3, 1919, indicated troublous times in many places, including the following incidents:

A strike of phosphate mine workers in Polk County was temporarily suppressed by a court injunction against the strikers issued by Judge R. M. McCall.

A race war between Negroes and whites in Omaha in which 1,600 Federal troops were called out.

Federal troops were in charge at Elaine, Arkansas, called there to suppress a race riot between the white and colored elements.

Three Negroes were lynched in a racial clash at Montgomery, Alabama. In a strike in the steel industry in Pennsylvania, 375,000 workers were idle.

In England a general strike of railroad workers was in progress.

The soviet government had been set up in Russia, but scattered remnants of the Czar's army were still resisting the revolution in some

sections of the Russ domain.

President Wilson's illness had taken a turn for the worse.

Judge Elbert Gary, chairman of the U. S. steel board, refused to deal with unions and insisted on the open shop.

King Albert of Belgium had landed in New York for a visit to America. A huge reception was given in his honor.

RETURNED SOLDIERS EMPLOYED.--(From October 5 issue, page 16-A):

"That service men returning to Tampa are being given employment with great rapidity, former employees being taken back to their old positions and new positions being found for those who were not at work when called away, is shown by statistics given out at the local office of the Red Cross employment bureau, which shows a little less than 600 men given positions through that agency in the last six months, the men being placed at the rate of 100 per month."

OPERA AT ITALIAN CLUB.--"A splendid program of opera is being given at present at the Italian Club, and the performances are largely attended and well enjoyed." (The item did not mention the name of company or organization producing the operas).

HORSE BOWL READY.--This from October 7 issue, page 16, indicated that Tampa still had enough horses to justify the equivalent of the old village horse trough: "Well, the horse fountain at Lafayette and Water Streets is all fixed up and painted, and it sure does look good to see the horses enjoying it these hot days."

INDIAN RELICS SHOWN.--On Page 6 of the paper of October 9 was mentioned an exhibit of ancient Indian relics collected by Dr. L. W. Weedon, some taken from a prehistoric Indian mound and others found by Dr. Weedon in his orange grove near St. Petersburg. Among other

relics in the collection was a sample of ancient artificial stone, of which it was said: "This piece of artificial stone is particularly valued by Dr. Weedon, as it is very perfect. The art of making artificial stone by the same process has been lost, artificial stone now being manufactured by an entirely different method, which, it is said, does not yield nearly as good results as the old method of the mound builders."

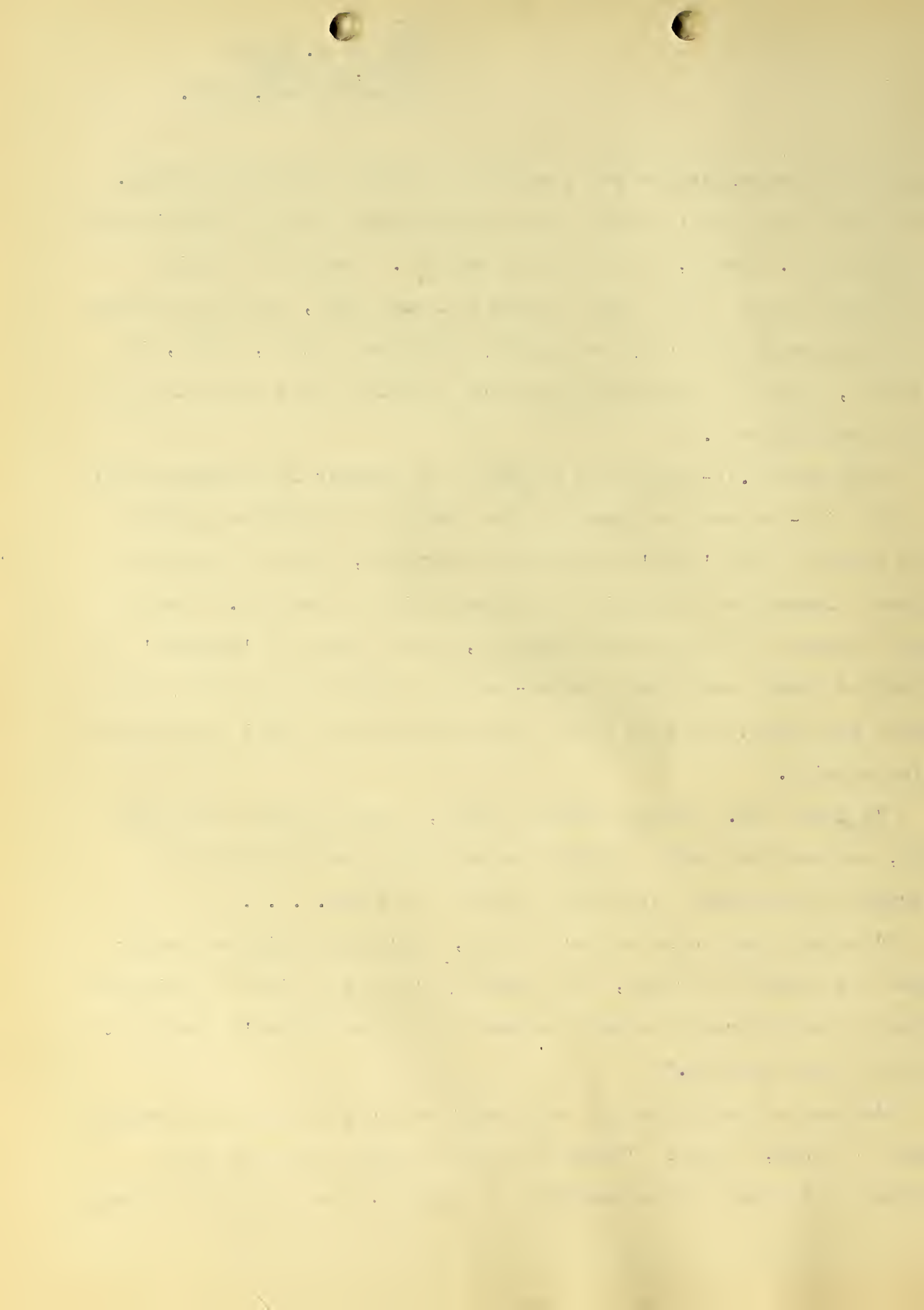
"MOB SPIRIT."--Editorials on Page 6 of October 10 included this:

"It ill-becomes the press of the country to fulminate against the spirit of the 'reds' in European countries, when at home the lowest element and principle of the mob spirit is abroad. Florida hung its head in shame some years ago, when a court of 'justice' in Pinellas County convicted a seven-year old boy for the larceny of a horse and buggy, and sent him to the reform school until the date of his maturity.

"A Macon (Ga.) mob has taken a child, a small negro nine years old, and most hellishly shot him to death for having attacked a farmer and inflicted but slight wounds on the man. . . .

"The mob that would murder a child, though his skin be blacker than the nights of Erebus, will some day reach the pitch of boldness where it will strangle a babe because it bit the mother's breast at which it was nursing."

Another editorial in the same paper called attention to a housing need in Tampa, saying: "Tampa is going to get a bad name this winter if it does not do something at once to take care of the housing



need, daily growing more serious. There is hardly a house here that can be had for love or money, unless one buys it outright."

LEPER COLONY FOR FLORIDA.--A front-page news story from Washington, on October 11, created intense resentment in Tampa and throughout the state by announcing that Surgeon-General Blue, head of the United States Public Health Service, proposed to establish a leper colony somewhere in Florida. A group of prominent men from different parts of the state was preparing to go to Washington to register a vigorous protest. A telegram to U. S. Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, then in Washington, elicited a reply that he would make strong objections to the proposed plan, and that "No leper colony will be established in Florida."

CROSS-STATE CANAL PROPOSED.--Long before the present project of a ship canal across the State, Florida people were planning for a somewhat similar enterprise, as shown by this Tampa story on Page 4 of the Tribune of October 11, 1919:

"South Florida's cross-state ship canal becomes more of a concrete expectation and less of a vague hope, by the official formation here yesterday of the South Florida Ship Canal Association. The fundamental purpose of this permanent organization is to effect the construction of a ship canal from Gulf to Atlantic up the Caloosahatchee River, through Lake Okeechobee and down to some point on the east coast, and immediate steps will be taken to put it strongly before Congress. One of the drainage canals out of the 'Glades or the Atlantic could be used.'" Leaders in forming the organization included: W. P. Franklin, ex-mayor of Fort Myers; Phillip Shore, president of the Interocean Steamship Company, of Tampa; Judge E. B. Donnell, West Palm Beach; E. A. Fuge,

banker of Stuart; J. F. Chaille, of Miami; Fred G. Warde, secretary of the Fort Myers Board of Trade, and Perry G. Wall, of Tampa.

FIRST BIG AIR RACE.--The front-page feature of October 12 was of the army flyers' great air race across the American continent, from Mineola, New York to San Francisco. The race was won by Lieut. Belvin W. Maynard, known as the "flying Parson" because he was an ordained minister. He made the trip in the then-astonishing flying time of 25 hours, making several stops for fuel enroute. The Lieutenant flew a DeHaviland "Four," winning over ten other flyers in the race.

QUINTUPLETS BORN IN FLORIDA.--In the issue of October 13, Page 3, the following brief dispatch from Red Bay, Walton County, Florida, reveals that a Florida mother beat Mrs. Dionne by nearly 16 years in presenting the world with five babies in one batch; but there was no subsequent news as to whether these quints lived or not:

"The stork which officiates around Walton County evidently got tired of traveling around the other day and decided to leave his whole load at once, and go home for a rest. At any rate, five babies were born at one birth to Mrs. Oscar Bray, of Walton, and the mother and all five of the new little Brays are reported to be getting along well at last accounts."

PROFITEERS TO BE PROSECUTED.--For months the Tribune and other papers had been filled with complaints about the high cost of living. On Page 1, October 14, a Washington story said: "In anticipation that legislation will soon become effective to stop profiteering, the department of justice is putting the finishing touches to its plans for procedure when the new weapons are available. Attorney-General

Palmer called a meeting of the conference who took the high cost of living under advisement nearly three months ago. . . . It is known that the attorney-general is preparing to proceed vigorously in a number of individual cases involving both foodstuffs and clothing."

BANK MERGER IN TAMPA.--Page 1 of October 15 (Section 2) announced consolidation of the American National Bank and Citizens Bank and Trust Company, two of Tampa's larger banks. Dr. L. A. Bize was made president of the merged institutions.

SHIPBUILDING TO END.--On Page 7-A announcement was made that the Government had built its last ship at the Tampa Dock Company's plant and that the Emergency Fleet Corporation had sold the remaining lumber on hand at these yards amounting to 1,000,000 feet, consisting of fir, pine, oak and cypress. Manager L. E. Knight of the Tampa Dock Company stated that the concern would continue building ships.

TRACTORS MADE AT OLDSMAR.--News from Oldsmar (later Tampashores, but now Oldsmar again), Pinellas County, the town founded by R. E. Olds, wealthy automobile manufacturer, said:

"What is claimed to be the largest order for farm tractors ever placed in Florida has been received by the Oldsmar Tractor Company. . . . The order is for \$200,000 worth of the practical machines which are helping to make Oldsmar famous. These machines will be distributed through Georgia and other southern states. The announcement made a few days ago that the Oldsmar factory will double its floor space by the erection of new buildings is a necessary step of the above order." (Page 3, October 21).

TAMPA MASONS HONORED.--A telegram received in Tampa from Washington was the basis of the following information on Page 5, October 22:

"Thirteen Tampans have been signally honored by the supreme council of Scottish Rite Masonry for the Southern jurisdiction or 'mother council' of the world, according to a wire received last night by Major James McCants, from Washington, where the council is in session. According to the telegram six Tampans--A. P. Stuart, R. J. McMasters, W. F. Harvey, W. S. Hampton, Joe P. C. Elkins and M. V. Cole were advanced to the thirty-third degree honors. The following Tampa Masons were advanced to knights commanders of the court of honor: James S. McCants, W. P. Dawson, A. S. Thornton, A. B. Hale, F. Heinrich, G. F. Williams and L. M. Hiers. . . . The fact that Tampans received thirteen of these degrees, which are among the highest gifts in Masonry, is said to establish a record for the city, and probably for a community the size of Tampa for the entire country, as only a comparatively small number are so honored by the supreme council, which meets only once in two years."

KIWANIS ORGANIZED IN TAMPA.--Page 5 of October 24, 1919, recorded that organization of the Tampa Kiwanis Club had been completed and its charter was to be presented that night. Alonzo P. McMullen was elected president.

On Page 6 of the same paper was this parched editorial quip: "Since the state went dry the spitting on the sidewalk ordinance has not turned a dollar into the treasury. There's not a man who can get up enough saliva to violate it."

FAVORITE LINE TO BE SOLD.--This news item on Page 14 forecast the probable passing of a long-established local steamboat line:

"Three steamers, the Favorite, the Manatee and the Pokonoket, the Favorite Machine shops, some real estate in Ellenton, and all other

property of the St. Petersburg Transportation Company formerly operating the Favorite line of steamers between Tampa, St. Petersburg and Manatee ports, will be sold to the highest bidder at the Federal building here on November 3. The order for the sale was received here yesterday from Federal Judge R. M. McCall.

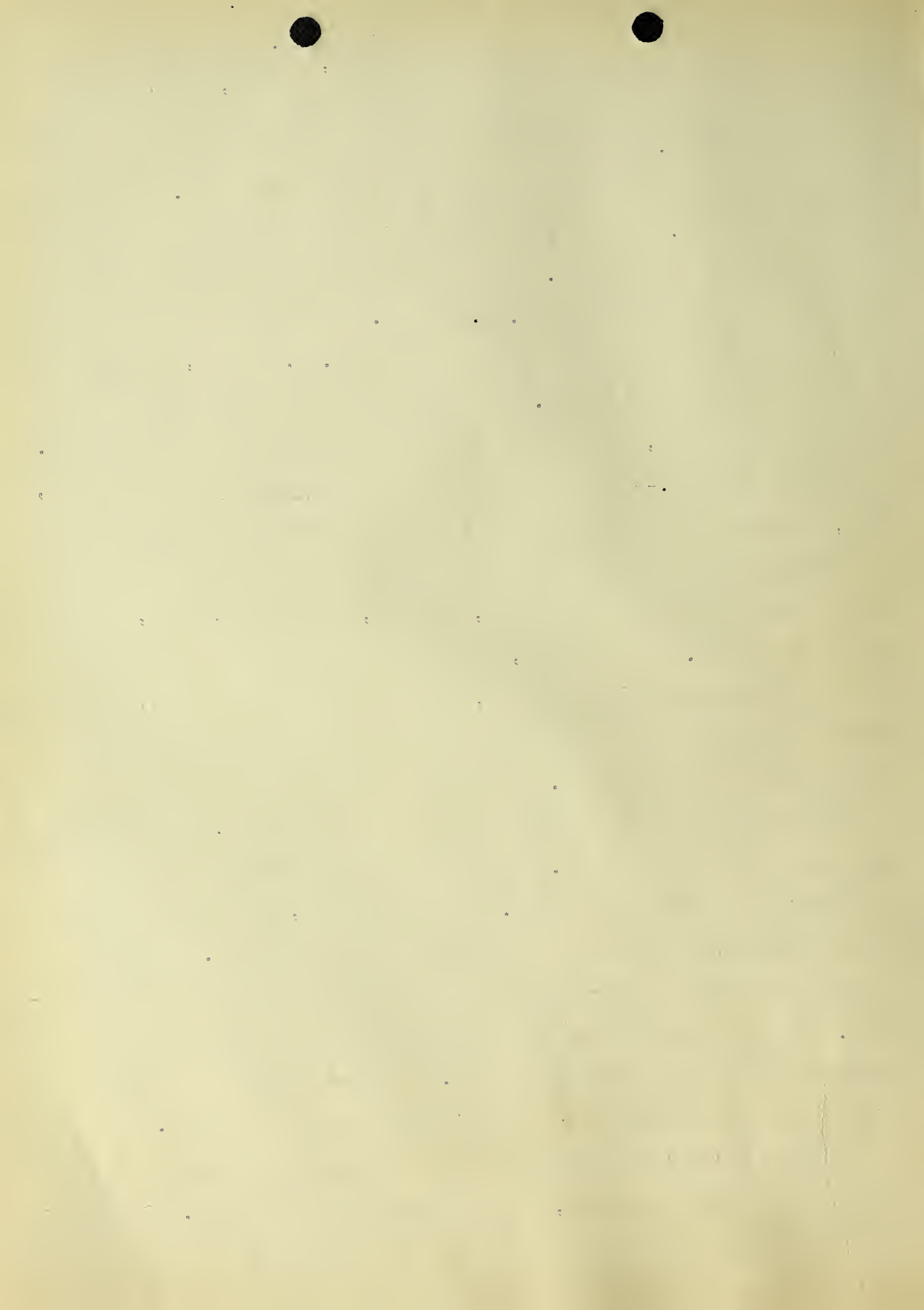
"The sale will be conducted by Receiver C. P. Fuller, who is empowered to reject all bids. The line has been in the hands of the receiver for a year, and has not been in operation since last spring."

TRoubLED TIMES.--These highlights from the Tribune of October 25, 1919, indicate the trend of national events at that disturbed period:

"Reds" were blamed by steel magnates for the strikes in that industry then in progress at Gary, Indiana; Youngstown, Ohio, Pittsburg and other places. Then as now, "reds" and "communists" were accused as the instigators of all strikes, formation of labor unions, protests against the high cost of living and other efforts toward bettering the condition of the masses.

Bituminous coal miners in Pennsylvania and throughout the country were preparing for a strike. A strike of longshoremen in coast cities had continued for several weeks. In New York 25,000 striking cigar makers were about to accept a compromise with employers. Printing pressmen who were striking in the East were about to vote on a settlement. In all these strikes communistic or red influence was blamed by employers for the dissatisfaction. Workers claimed the cost of living was so high they could not live on the current wages.

A Federal "dry" officer was to be appointed for each state to enforce the prohibition law, according to Washington news.



Labor delegates to an industrial conference in Washington urged that the high cost of living be pressed for immediate solution. Meat packers, wholesale and retail food dealers, clothing manufacturers and retailers were all under fire, accused of combining to maintain extortionate prices of necessities. Some dealers had been accused of profiteering to the extent of 300 per cent.

Federal troops, national guards and armed peace officers in several places were being massed to suppress possible violence incident to strikes.

CLOCKS SET BACK IN TAMPA.--"Daylight Saving" time was abandoned by Tampa on October 26, 1919, as seen by this announcement on Page 5 of the Tribune of October 25:

"With the setting back of all clocks, which will take place at two o'clock tomorrow morning, arrangements are being made by various interests to conform to the change." (Congress had repealed the war-time measure compelling national adoption of "daylight saving" time).

TAMPA-MADE FILM EXHIBITED.--The coming attraction at the Strand theater, as advertised on Page 7, was "The Birth of A Race," the million-dollar motion picture made in Tampa. This picture was produced at the Sulphur Springs studio after two years of preparation, and had just closed a long and successful run in Chicago. George Le Guere, Jane Grey and Ben Hendricks were the leading actors. Many Tampa people appeared in the picture as extras.

LOCAL STORES BOYCOTTED.--On October 27, Page 3 reported that the thousands of cigar makers in Ybor City, Tampa and West Tampa, in a protest against high living costs, announced that they would boycott Tampa merchants by pledging themselves to buy no clothing or shoes for

the next three months. Many similar boycotts were being inaugurated throughout the country, according to newspapers.

Women all over the U. S. were then fighting for equal suffrage. Announcement was made on Page 5 that the State convention of the Florida Equal Suffrage League would be held in Tampa three days of the current week. Women from all parts of the state were expected to attend.

NEW PRINTING METHOD.--The same issue of the Tribune carried a full page ad of the Literary Digest, explaining that owing to a printers' strike in New York it would put out the coming week's issue of 700,000 copies without the aid of typesetters. Its previous edition had been printed in the same way, the ad said, by means of direct photo-engraved reproduction of pages of tyrewritten copy. They claimed the entire previous issue had been sold in one day. The ad quoted a number of messages of congratulation from other publishers, and hailed the innovation as a means whereby magazines and newspapers of the future might do away with typesetting altogether.

TAMPA CIGAR WON HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS.--On Page 14 was a story of how Congressman Joseph G. Cannon, ex-speaker of the House of Representatives and generally known as "Uncle Joe," was led to help Tampa in its fight for deeper water.

Congressman Herbert J. Drane of Florida, related how during his first term in Congress he had given Uncle Joe a fine cigar from a lot he had received from Tampa, and its quality mightily pleased the veteran statesman.

"Where did you get it?" Uncle Joe asked.

"Made in Tampa," replied Mr. Drane.

"The Illinois congressman then inquired how many cigars were manufactured in Tampa, and was amazed to learn more than a million were made every working day. He also was told that Tampa is a thriving city of 75,000 inhabitants (this was in 1919) with many other industries which are thriving in a small way.

"Expressing wonder that the city was not better known commercially throughout the country, Uncle Joe was told that high railroad freight rates militated against the development. 'Well,' said he, 'isn't Tampa located on the coast? Why don't you ship by water?'

"Mr. Drane told him that Tampa needed deeper water in order to develop her shipping trade. From that time on, Uncle Joe became a staunch supporter of deeper water for Tampa, then so badly needed, and it was a Tampa-made cigar that turned the trick."

SUBMARINES FOR KEY WEST.--This dispatch from Key West appeared on Page 1 of Section 2, October 30:

"Three submarines, K-1, Lieutenant L. J. Wilson commanding; K-2, Lieutenant W. Gearing commanding; K-6, Lieutenant W. A. Heard commanding; accompanied by the U. S. S. Eagle, Commander P. A. Burg commanding, flagship and tender of Submarine Division Three, have arrived here to be stationed at the Key West submarine base."

FLORIDA NEWSPAPERS MERGE.--A special from Bartow on Page 2 reported: "J. C. Gallemore, editor and owner of the Polk County Record, has purchased from Frank K. Anderson the Bartow Courier-Informant, the oldest newspaper in South Florida. The two papers will combine subscription lists and will issue a semi-weekly."

HUGE COAL STRIKE.--Front page feature of November 3, 1919 was news of the strike of 400,000 soft coal miners throughout the United

States under leadership of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and John L. Lewis, president of the United Mineworkers of America, then affiliated with the A. F. of L.

GLASS MADE IN TAMPA.--"First Glass Ever Made in Florida," was the headline of this local feature on Page 4:

"The first glass ever made in Florida was turned out yesterday by A. P. McKee, plant superintendent for the newly-formed Florida Glass Company, using a brass-melting furnace at the plant of the Gulf Iron Works in the Garrison.

"The demonstration was made to show the possibilities of the Florida glass sand, which the company proposes to use in the manufacture of bottles, lamp chimneys and globes, and hundreds of other forms of flint glass manufacture, and was given in the presence of a few of the interested parties and a Tribune man.

"The mixture had been placed in the crucible far enough in advance of the party so as to assure its being in a sufficiently molten condition to demonstrate at once, and upon a signal from Mr. A. P. McKee a husky negro reached a long pair of tongs into a fiery pit in the floor, which reminded one of an opening into the infernal regions as depicted by Gustave Dore.

"After several efforts he swung out a crucible half filled with the white-hot molten mixture, and while all the spectators stood back at a respectful distance, Mr. McKee inserted one end of a long iron pipe into the crucible and twisting it about brought out a ball of the incandescent mass.

"Blows Florida's First Glass"

"This he swung about and blowing through the tube produced a glass ball

which after it had been cooled, was passed around for inspection. Short rods and thin strips and shapes of glass were also made, and specimens secured by everyone present, as souvenirs of the first production of the new industry, which it is believed will eventually become one of the greatest industries of the state.

"Mr. McKee explained something of the process of glass making and glass composition, which is sand, a flux which consists of soda and nitrate, together with the addition of high-grade fluxes, and cleared by antimony and arsenic.

"This glass produced here today,' said Mr. McKee, 'is produced under the hardest of conditions as we have had to use a crucible intended for the melting of brass and a furnace built for the same purpose. This glass contains no decolorizing agent and shows the natural color of the Florida sand.'

"As a matter of fact, however, the glass is considerably clearer and whiter than much of that which is used in the manufacture of soft drink bottles even in its natural condition."

"Silicate is Almost Pure"

"In all my experience in the business of glass making,' continued Mr. McKee, 'I have never known a silicate sand that shows as small a trace of foreign matter. In fact the percentage of iron in the Florida sand is a very small matter to contend with in the manufacture of flint glass.'

"The specimens of glass produced yesterday will be placed on exhibition in the window of Maas Brothers' store, and are of much interest as marking the birth of a new industry in Tampa and the state."

FAVORITE LINE SOLD.--Issue of November 4 noted that the boats and properties of the Favorite line of steamers which had long been in operation between Tampa, St. Petersburg and Manatee river points were sold November 3 at a Federal court sale in Tampa. Purchasers were the creditors of the line represented by George C. Allen, president of the Republic Trust Company of Philadelphia. C. P. Muller, receiver of the line, said the steamers would probably resume service in December. The sale included the steamers Favorite, Manatee and Pokonoket and a waterfront at Ellenton.

November 5, 1919, Page 7. A cable from England reported that Lady Nancy Astor, former American, had made her first official speeches in the campaign to determine whether she, an American-born woman, should be the first woman to sit as a member of the house of commons.

Page 1 of the same date carried a dispatch from Helena, Arkansas, stating that eleven Negroes had been convicted there of murder in connection with a race riot in October.

SUGAR 30 CENTS A POUND.--(November 6, Page 6). One item illustrating the high cost of living was sugar, which was selling in Tampa at 30 cents a pound (and was hard to get at that) although the Government had set a maximum price of 9 cents a pound. Tribune news attributed the high price of this and other foodstuffs to manipulation of speculators, who were secretly hoarding vast quantities of supplies to create a belief there was a shortage.

Among hundreds of merchants in many cities, several Tampa dealers had been alleged by Government officers to be hoarding and profiteering on foodstuffs.

INJUNCTION TO END STRIKE. (November 9, Page 1). Federal Judge A. B. Anderson of the Federal District Court of Indianapolis issued a sweeping injunction against 400,000 soft coal miners on strike throughout the United States ordering cancellation of the strike order issued some weeks earlier by labor executives. John L. Lewis, Samuel Gompers, William Green and other labor leaders characterized the order as "so autocratic as to stagger the human mind."

NATIONAL U. D. C. CONVENTION IN TAMPA. (November 9, Page 1). Most of this page was taken up by a schedule of the general convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy which was to be held in Tampa November 11 to 14. The convention program included addresses by the National President, Miss Mary B. Poppenheim of Charlotte, S. C., State President Mrs. Amos Norris of Tampa and Mrs. Henry Brash, president of the Tampa chapter of the U. D. C.

November 14, Page 1. At the national U. D. C. Convention in Tampa Mrs. Roy Weeks McKinney of Paducah, Ky., was elected new general president of the organization. Mrs. Amos Norris of Tampa was elected to the national office of treasurer general.

PRINCE OF WALES VISITED AMERICA. (November 14). A Washington dispatch on Page 1 told of the visit of Edward, then Prince of Wales, who afterwards abdicated as king of England and later became the much-publicized Duke of Windsor and husband of "Wally" Simpson. He was entertained at the White House by President and Mrs. Wilson.

BAYSHORE HOSPITAL OPENED. (November 24). On Page 1 was an account of the opening of the new Bayshore Hospital on Bayshore Boulevard, a large private hospital. It was described as a modern institution with excellent equipment and a staff of competent physicians and nurses.

Dr. J. S. Helms was chief of staff and head of the surgical division. There were accommodations for 125 to 150 patients.

ESTUARY IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED. Page 5 of December 6, 1919, presented this local item which indicated the beginning of one of Tampa's most important harbor improvements:

"Col. S. M. Sparkman, chairman of the board of port commissioners and Dr. L. A. Bize, secretary, who have been on a visit to New York, Washington, Philadelphia and other cities studying the latest methods of harbor improvements have decided on an engineer of national reputation who will draw the plans for the improvements which will be made on the city property in the estuary zone here. The chairman and secretary were authorized to take this action before leaving. . . .

"The board intends to improve the city's holdings in the estuary without delay, it is stated, and the prospects are that the estuary zone will soon become the location of numerous important industrial plants. . . ." (This forecast was later fulfilled).

DEEPER WATER FOR TAMPA. (December 18). This Washington dispatch on Page 5-B told of further improvements soon to be realized for Tampa's harbor. (The 27-foot depth then proposed has since been increased to 32 feet):

"The war department today approved the contract recently let at Jacksonville headquarters of the Florida district for deepening the ship channel from the bar at Egmont Key to the head of the estuary at Tampa.

"This means that the work of deepening the Tampa ship channel to 27 feet will be proceeded with without delay."

ROTARY ORGANIZED IN ST. PETERSBURG. (December 19, Page 5):

"St. Petersburg has a Rotary club at last. It was organized at a meeting last Tuesday night at the Yacht Club, when a supper was served to 21 leading citizens. The preliminary work was done last night and committees appointed to make reports at the next meeting at which time arrangements will be made for a meeting in January, at which W. G. Brorein, president of the Tampa Rotary club and other Tampa Rotarians will be guests, and at which time the local club will be formally instituted.

"Charter members of the local club are: W. L. Straub, T. A. Chancellor, A. F. Thomasson, C. C. Carr, B. A. Lawrence, jr., L. A. Whitney, Howard Frazee, Roy Sellars, A. S. York, Ed. T. Lewis, A. L. Johnson, George S. Gandy, sr., Robert Walden, James G. Foley, Robert Markland, A. F. Lang, S. D. Harris and Ben Freer."

PHOSPHATE STRIKE ENDED. (December 19, Page 7):

"Announcement of the formal ending of the phosphate strike was made yesterday by V. Urquhart of Mulberry, secretary of Mineral Workers Unions No. 253, 254 and 255, who stated that a proclamation adopted some time ago by the three unions has been officially sanctioned by the international organization.

"The strike, which involved about 3,000 phosphate miners in Hillsborough and Polk counties, was begun April 26 last, when the companies refused to accede to demands for an 8-hour day and increased wages. Trouble between strike sympathizers and mine guards who were sworn in as deputy sheriffs cost the lives of four men during the strike and resulted in the removal of Sheriff John Logan of Polk county despite the protests of a large number of prominent citizens of that section. Eventually Mr. Logan was restored to office. Strikebreakers

imported by the companies were unable to keep the mines going at anything like normal production for many months, but eventually the strike was broken and for the past few months production has been about normal. One of the factors in breaking the strike was the issuance of a federal injunction against the interference by the strikers with the operation of train service.

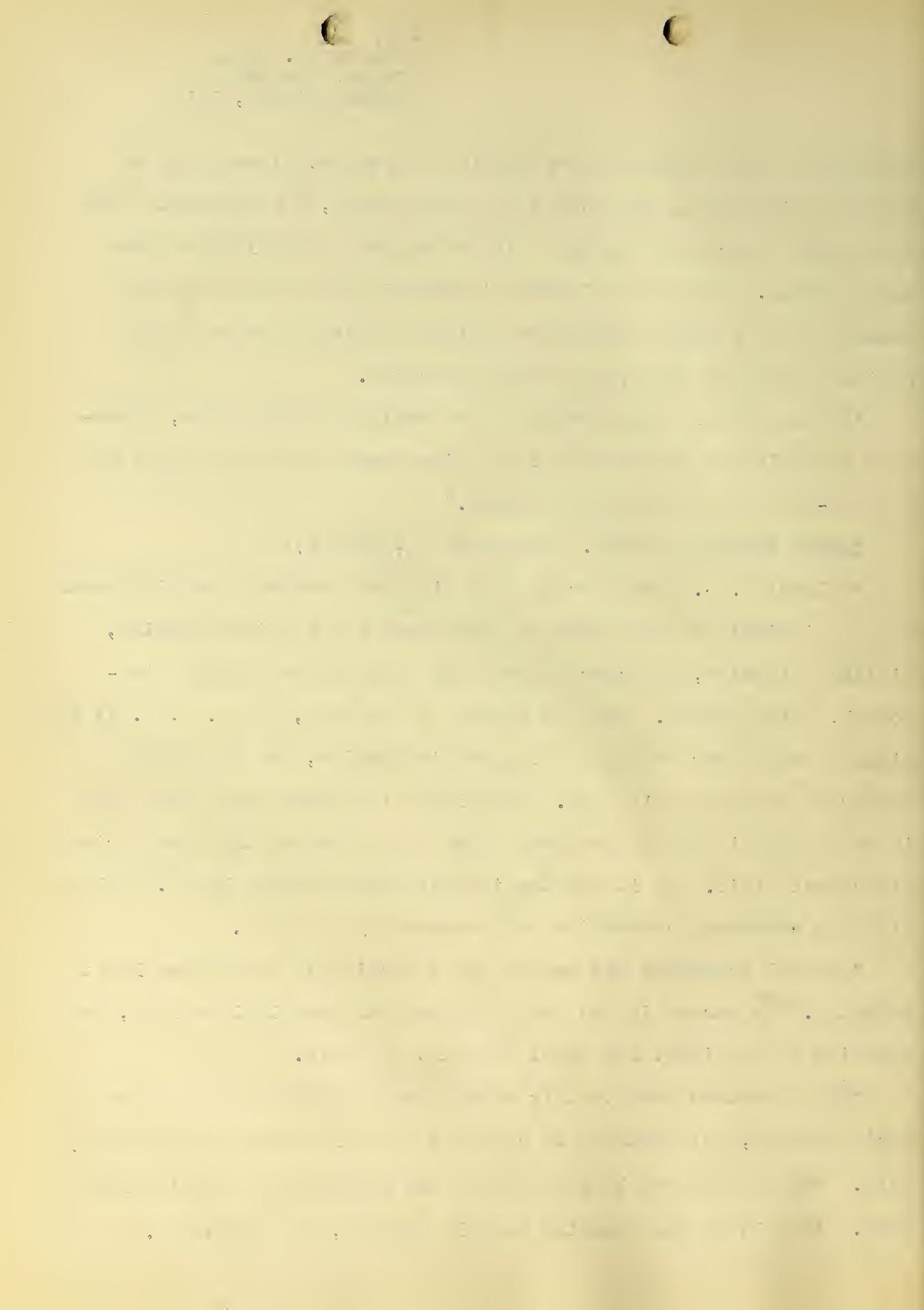
"In the formal announcement at the ending of the strike, attention is called to the fact that the mine operators have granted an 8 to 10-hour day and increased wages."

TAMPA HONORED BY KING. (December 21, Page 5):

"Colonel E. A. Iremonger of this city has received the high honor and the insignia of Commander of the Order of the British Empire, military division, by order of the king through the British vice-consul, Peter Taylor. Next to Knight of the Bath, the C. B. E. is the highest order ever awarded by the British Empire, and is usually conferred by the king's hand. If Colonel Iremonger could have been in Washington it would have been given by the Prince of Wales during his recent visit. As it was the insignia was bestowed by Mr. Taylor with the customary ceremonies as commanded by the king.

"Colonel Iremonger has had 20 years service in the Durham Light Infantry. He served in the South African war from 1901 to 1903, and was with his regiment for about 10 years in India.

"He afterwards came to this country and resided for some time in North Florida, but returned to rejoin the British army in September, 1914. During 1915 and 1916 he was in the trenches and was invalided home. In 1917 he was promoted to full colonel, to command No. 6



Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919

district, the second largest in Great Britain, with a personnel of about 6,000 troops and 10,000 civilian employees.

"Mentioned for 'valuable services during the war,' the decoration and title has just been awarded. The insignia is a beautiful cross of gold, richly enameled in pale blue, surmounted by the Imperial crown and bearing the words 'For God and the Empire.' It is suspended by a purple and crimson ribbon.

"Mrs. Iremonger also did splendid work for her country during the world war, being engaged for two years in Red Cross duties in military hospitals at Salisbury Plain and Nottingham.

"They came to Tampa last month and purchased a home, where they now reside."

BIG BEAR KILLED. (December 28, Page 2-A, dispatch from Tavares):

"B. C. Lanier, of Leesburg, brought down a 300-pound bear on the Withlacoochee in the south part of the county; also a couple of deer, one a fine buck."

MORE HOPEFUL OUTLOOK. This editorial on Page 6 of the Tribune of December 29 took a more optimistic view of the future than was justified by later developments, although some conditions had changed somewhat for the better toward the end of the year:

"One of Uncle Sam's Christmas presents to the people of this country will be cheaper food. Attorney-General Palmer promises that prices will begin to go down after New Years' and will continue to drop as the days go by. The reasons for it, Mr. Palmer says, are greatly increased production, elimination of extravagant buying and the prosecution of profiteers.

"This news will bring good cheer to the people of America. It will

will be a long step toward normal conditions, and will be getting away from the war. One other reason for being cheerful at this time is the fact that the strike fever has run its course and died out. . .

"It will indeed be a happy New Year for Americans. Reduced prices and a satisfied people make a glorious condition, and Americans will unite on the first day of the New Year in a celebration that will reach from Tampa to a trip around the United States."

CLOSING SCENES. A perusal of the Tribune of December 30, 1919, presented this general picture of conditions on the next-to-last day of the year:

In Washington representatives of the four big railroad brotherhoods and heads of affiliated trades adopted a declaration of principles opposing legislation which would make strikes of workers unlawful. (Legislation had been proposed in certain bills, such as the Esch-Cummings bill, to outlaw strikes and put strikers in jail).

Nearly a hundred persons had died in New York, Chicago and other cities, and many others made blind, from drinking whiskey made from wood alcohol or denatured alcohol and other poisonous ingredients. Many bootleggers were being arrested for selling the poisonous concoctions, which were dubbed "coroner cocktails."

The strike of nearly 400,000 soft coal miners had been ended by Federal court injunctions, there was a serious coal shortage throughout the country, and a Government coal commission had been appointed by President Wilson to fix wages of workers and the price of coal. The strike-settlement agreement had been forced upon the miners by threats of wholesale arrests, and a 14-cent wage advance had awarded the miners by the Government.

(7)
Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919.

In Tampa, city officials had met to discuss purchase of the Tampa Waterworks Company, which was then owned and operated by private capital. The company's franchise had expired in April, 1919.

BIG FIRE IN TAMPA. (December 31): The Tribune's front-page feature of this date covered a disastrous fire that swept through the heart of the downtown wholesale district, with a loss of about \$400,000. Starting about 4:30 p. m., it burned for more than 24 hours, consuming most of two entire blocks. Light and power main lines from the Tampa Electric Company's power plant nearby were burned and the east half of the city was left in darkness and without electric power until 10 p.m.

The burned area was bounded by the Hillsborough river on the west, Whiting street on the south, Tampa street on the east and Washington street on the north. The fire was fanned by high winds, spreading quickly from its point of origin, the Home Line steamer dock and warehouse. Several firemen were slightly injured but there were no fatalities. The wholesale grocery houses of Perkins & Sharpe and the Markey & Harmon Company were completely destroyed with their large stocks. Other heavy losers were the Bay (steamer) Line, Home steamer line, Snow & Bryan, wholesale grocers, Florida Condensed Milk Company, J. Q. Brantley, and Western Union Telegraph Company. The Tampa Daily Times plant and the large hardware firm of Knight & Wall were seriously threatened but suffered only slight loss.

HUGE TANKER TO BE BUILT. (December 31, 1919): Tampa's two big shipbuilding companies, the Oscar Daniels Company, specializing on steel ships, and the Tampa Dock Company, builders of wooden vessels principally, had been rushed with orders for Government war-time requirements. But with the war's closing their business had been threatened

Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
Tampa Tribune, 1919

with curtailment. Now, however, both companies had embarked upon shipbuilding for private concerns, also, and the Daniels Company especially had taken a new lease on life, as will be seen by this local news on Page 3:

"Contract has been made by the Oscar Daniels Company with the Standard Oil Company of New York for a \$2,200,000 steel tank ship. The Tampa shipyard has already commenced work on the ship and Mr. Daniels states that the keel will be laid during the latter part of January, as soon as the next hull has been launched.

"The contract calls for a vessel of 11,900 deadweight tons, which is 2,400 bigger than any of the ten ships Mr. Daniels is now building for the Emergency Fleet Corporation, and by far the largest ship ever launched south of Newport News. The new tank steamer is to be 480 feet long, 60 feet wide, drawing 18 feet light. The engines are to be quadruple reciprocating, with Scott boilers, oil burning.

"As soon as the Manatee, the sixth 2,500-ton ship is launched, which should be within a few weeks, the ways on which it is being built will be enlarged to accommodate the new Standard Oil tanker and the keel will be laid. While Mr. Daniels said this is the only contract he has made with the Standard Oil Company so far, it is probable that further contracts for similar ships will be closed later."

Thus, with one of Tampa's most disastrous fires still smoldering, and with this auspicious announcement of continued shipbuilding, the Tribune's record of the year 1919 came to a close.

Complete
Approx. 2800 words
Jules A. Frost

Tampa, Florida
Jan. 12, 1938

O L D N E W S P A P E R F I L E S

Tampa Herald, Jan.-Feb., 1855

Tampans in the 1850's were more interested in literature than in current events, if one may judge preferences by newspaper files. A copy of the Tampa Herald, February 17, 1855, carries no news on the front page.

This paper, as outlined in the heading, was "devoted to truth, morality, pure literature, news, science, fine arts, agriculture, &c." Evidently the editor-publisher, Thad. C. Andrews, valued the importance of these principles in the order named. On the front page is the following reference to truth:

ORIGIN OF THE SAYING "MORE TRUTH THAN POETRY."

At a social dinner, Sylvester challenged Ben Johnson to see who would the most readily form a rhyming couplet. Sylvester formed one that ran as follows:

"I, John Sylvester,
Hugged your sister."

To which Johnson immediately retorted:

"I, Ben Johnson,
Hugged your wife."

"But," said Sylvester, rather chagrined at the turn, "that's no rhyme." "No," replied Johnson, "but it is true."

Equally conspicuous of the front page, the Herald's second principle, morality, was driven home in a long article by Horace Mann, entitled "Counsels to Children."

"You were made to be clean and neat in your person and in your

dress, and gentlemanly and ladylike in your manners," the author exhorts the youthful readers. "If you have not been bitten by a mad dog, don't be afraid of fresh water . . ." he advised in a solemn paragraph condemning untidy ears and B.O.

No three-column advertisements were to be found in the Herald, offering this brand of cigarettes as Dr. So-and-So's favorite prescription for indigestion, or that brand as the nation's greatest lung builder for athletes; so Mr. Mann was free to advise Tampa youths as follows:

"Contract no such filthy and offensive habit as chewing or smoking tobacco. So long as a man chews or smokes, though a very Chesterfield in everything else that pertains to his appearance, he can never be quite a gentleman."

Diligence in mental gymnastics was considered of grave importance by this writer. "Be sure you learn something every day," he sagely admonished. "When you go to bed at night, if you cannot think of something that you have learned during the day, spring up and find a book, and get an idea before you sleep."

Early Tampons may have liked "pure literature," but they also must have liked it enlivened, as well as burdened, with a heavy dialect form of humor if a front-page story, "Sut Lovegood's Daddy's Acting Horse" may be considered representative:

"Hold that ere hoss down to the yearth." "He's a-spreadin' his tail to fly now."--"Keep him whar he is." "Wo, Shavetail." "He's dancin' a jig." These, and like expressions were addressed to a queer-looking, long-legged, short-bodied, small-headed, white-haired, hog-eyed, funny sort of a genius . . . " and the story rambles at length down the hand-set column, telling of a back-woods family whose horse had died. The pater familias, despondent over the prospect of untilled

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crops, agreed to act as horse if the son would hold the gopher plow. The "hoss" insisted on having a bit in his mouth because he "hadn't worked for sum time, an' might sorter feel his oats an' go to cavortin'."

When properly harnessed to the plow, the old man, in order to show his strength, pranced through a sassafras bush and tore down a hornet's nest "nigh as big as a hoss's head." A realistic runaway resulted. He raced along, jumping, plow and all. over bushes until he came to a rail fence, through which he romped, tearing down seven panels. On he galloped to the old swimming hole at the foot of a bluff and went "ker-splunge into the kreek."

The son, who had urged the runaway along with unfilial levity, decided that it would be prudent to visit at a neighbor's place until the excitement subsided, and at last reports was getting news from home only through the observation of passers-by.

To further stress the morality feature, the front page carried a serious essay on the folly of smoking, contributed by a Boston reader who saw a youth enter the post office at that place with a cigar in his mouth.

Under the mast-head, (another front-page feature), the subscription was priced at \$2 if paid in advance, or \$3 if paid at the end of the year. Bills for job printing were to be paid on delivery, and the closing paragraph requires that all letters on matters connected with the establishment must be post-paid.

Editor Andrews must have been a busy man. In addition to penning essays, printing, soliciting advertising, collecting bills and covering news assignments, it seems that one of his duties was writing verse. The opening stanza of "The Printer's Toil" indicates that he had served an apprenticeship in a rigorous climate.

"Blow ye stormy winds of winter,
Drive the chilly, drifting snow;
Closely housed, the busy printer,
Heeds not how the winds may blow.

"Click, click, his type goes dropping,"

and continues to do so for several stanzas, then closes with a toast to the craft:

"Then long live the art of printing,
Here on happy freedom's soil,
And with joy that knows no stinting,
Heaven reward the printer's toil."

The second page starts off with an editorial on the opening of the Japanese ports. The theme chugs along under a full head of steam for awhile when the editor suddenly decides to drop anchor. "We have not room to finish our speculations on this subject now," he explains, "but will do so in our next issue."

The Herald's readers in Itchepucksassee (maiden name of Plant City), were assured that an effort would be made to have the paper delivered the day after publication, perhaps by pony express, replacing ox-cart distribution.

Without radio reviews and other rapid-transit news service, editorial disapproval of political opponents, especially those at the other end of the Atlantic seaboard, could be indulged in with safety.

"A great Know-Nothing victory has come off in Ontario and Livingston counties, New York," the editor observed, "the mysterious candidate being elected by a majority of over 2,000. These Know-Nothing sap heads

are certainly very lucky chaps."

Government red tape was being unravelled in those days, too, it seems, and a letter from "Cow Driver", dated Itchepucksassa, Feb. 12, 1855, scored the Indian agent for taking advantage of a grammatical or typographical error, and advised him to take charge of a grammar school as a more suitable vocation.

Society elsewhere was indulging in expensive parties, hostesses spending as much as ten dollars per person in an effort to impress social competitors. An exchange paragraph reveals that Mrs. Rusk, a millionaire of Philadelphia, gave an entertainment to 2,000 guests at a cost of \$20,000.

Another scissored paragraph informed readers that the steamer Pacific carried 97,000 letters, the largest letter mail ever conveyed across the Atlantic.

A long "Circular Address" by "Your obt'. servt., J. Carter," dealt with the improvement of waterways and construction of railroads. It was plentifully sprinkled with exclamation marks, which seem to pinch-hit for underscoring and italics.

Ordinance No. 54, foaled in Town Hall, Feb. 6, 1855, officially announced in due legal form that the firing of guns and pistols and hunting in the Streets of Tampa was prohibited; and that "any person convicted before this board will be fined or imprisoned at the discretion of same."

Statistics of the day were borrowed from the Charleston Standard, which paper clipped from the New York Herald. During the year, 175 lives were lost in 81 different fires in various sections of the country. The 193 railroad accidents showed a 55% increase over the previous year, and were responsible for 186 deaths and 589 injuries. The previous year showed 234 killed and 516 injured. Steamboat accidents were: Past



year, 48; lives lost, 587; injured, 225. Previous year, 31; lives lost, 327; injured, 158.

Ethics of the medical profession permitted more latitude in advertising in those days. In the issue of Feb. 17, 1855, appeared the following announcement:

D R. R. K E N D R I C K

RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Itchepucksassa, Pease Creek and Alafia settlements that he has located in their midst for the purpose of practicing his profession, And believing himself thoroughly qualified and prepared, if perfect satisfaction is not given, NO PAY WHATEVER will be demanded.

He can be found at the residence of Joseph Howell, Esq., when not professionally engaged.

Feb. 10, 1855

ly

Display advertising bristling with superlatives and plentifully adorned with exclamation marks was the order of the day, as these examples show:

A G R E A T P A P E R !

The Largest, Cheapest and Best In the World!!

Something New!!!

The National Monitor, published by Harper & Co., New York, has 16 super-royal octavo pages, and is printed in a form admirably suited for preservation. Single copies are sold for SIX CENTS by all news dealers in the United States.

R A I L R O A D ! R A I L R O A D ! !

Look Out for the Engine When the Bell

! ! ! R I N G S ! ! !

(At the Old Stand on Whiting Street).

I have just received per Schnr. John J. Taylor from New York, a portion of my fall supply of goods, consisting of almost every article usually called for, and a great many things that are never.

They will be sold for cash or produce at such prices as will satisfy the most fastidious.

My facilities for wholesaling goods are unsurpassed, and therefore ask country merchants to look at my stock before ordering, believing that I can sell cheaper here, than most persons can purchase in the North.

Come one -- come all -- look and be convinced.

tf - 36!

W. G. FERRIS

B L A C K S M I T H I N G A H O Y ! !

THE undersigned having supplied himself with a full supply of iron, is now prepared to execute all kinds of work in his line. He would inform his friends that CASH is an indispensable article in the purchase of his stock. And that CASH alone enables him to buy his groceries.

Those indebted to him will make speedy payments.

July 27.

HENRY C. BELLOWS

Reference to contemporary publications are brief but friendly. On page 2 of the issue of Jan. 20, 1855, appear the following:

We are pleased to learn that Col. McMillan, of the "Advertiser" has returned from the city of Charleston, where he has been on a two-fold mission of pleasure and matrimony, and has laid hold of his editorial quill in good earnest, to amuse and instruct the patrons of his interesting Journal.

We also observe that Mr. Royal, of the "Southern Sun" has made or is making arrangements to remove his press from Ocala to Pilatka, on the St. Johns. We wish this gentleman abundant success in his new theatre of enterprise. "May he experience no head winds."

We see that Mr. Hilton, formerly of the Savannah Georgian, has revived the "Evening Journal and Courier" recently owned by the lamented Chapman.

"Desk adventures" may have been in vogue then as now. An article on pages two and three of the Herald of Jan. 20, 1855, may have been fictionized as a satire against court procedure:

"Somewhere near the confines of Columbia and Alachua counties, on our way to Tampa, we were rudely accosted by an overgrown, burly-looking fellow and asked if we were the editor of the 'Tampa Herrold?'

We responded, yes. He then deliberately pulled from his pocket a communication, and presented it for perusal, and after having done so, he asked very pompously what we thought of it. We replied, frankly, that we thought it too much of a billingsgate production for the press. We had scarcely finished the sentence when he squared himself in pugilistic attitude, and swore by all the "whals that ever swolloð Junius, that he was no billy gates; and that we should publish it or take one of the worst lickins we ever got." Well, of the two evils, we of course made choice of the least, which accounts for the appearance of such a rare production in our columns, as the epistle to General Pearce, written by one Wm. Glassgall.

Columby Kounty, East Floriday

Dec. 14th, 1854

Gineral Pearce--

Mi deer frend--

I have had a liken fur U fur a long time so havin Jist attendid a most inturrestin cesshun uv our Kounty Kourt i will gin U the perticulers -- fust sute Bil Wax sude jo Gra fur 4\$ an 3l sense -- Bil got the gudgment jo sword he wudent pa it -- the presidin squire sade as how he shud pa an then he tuk holt o jo an whaled him like hel which pleses the populashun verry much the squire Mr. Biles is a mity brave strong man sir he is hel in a fite an that is my'objict in ritin U this leter is to let U no sumpthin about him an to request a kommishun fur im fur kaptin in the fust forses U kal fur again Kuby.

Yore lovin frend,

Wm. Glassgall

N.B.--thar war 2 more kases at that Kourt 1 by Lusy Waluee
agin jo Higs she sed jo ode her 1\$ an 50 sense fer work
an sarvice and hard labor dun at divers times &c but when the
Koart axed her what sort o labor it war she said he hadnt
any bizness axin kwestions an she kauled im a sore ide beest --
i tel U what president it war skerry times -- the Koart sed
she war in kontempt an ordered the konstabel to take her out
Lusy fit the ofiser like 1 o the old blue hens chickens til
her close got purty near all tore off an I kant tel what wud
a happened if the ole misses Blizer whos a mity nise ole lady
hadent kum with a grate white sheet and throne it over Lusy --
then 4 men kotched her an karryd her out.

Tuther kase ended in a nise fite 2 i wud gin U the
details but mi leter is gittin 2 long -- president i will gin
U notis be4 our nixt Koart so U may kum out an see the fun
i no it wil ne refreshin to U to kum.

Yore frend Glassgall*

Prevailing prices of commodities were listed on the same page
as follows: Domestic goods, per yd. 8 a 10; calicoes, American,
10 a 15; flour, northern, per bbl., 11 50; buckwheat, cwt., 7 50;
corn, bu., 1 50; corn meal, 2 00; Iron, Swedes, per lb., wide bar,
7 00; tire, 7½ a 8; nail rod, 7 a 8; molasses, per gallon, 40 a ;
hams, per lb., 16; shoulders, 9; shoes, per pr., russet brogan, 1 00
a 1 25; calf, 1 50 a 3 00; boots, 2 50 a 7 00; sugar, NO., brown,
6 a 10; brandy, French, gall., 5 a 7 50; gin, Holland, 4 a 5 50;

American, 1; rum, 1 a 3 50.

The wide variety of merchandise carried by the Tampa Drug and Book Store was advertised by proprietor Dr. Todd as follows: Quinine, morphine, strychnine, calomel, blue mass, cod liver oil, castor oil, olive oil, cream of tartar, sulphuric acid, lemon syrup, Stoughton bitters, copal varnish, nutmegs, cloves, cinnamon, copperas, indigo, peper, spice, brandy, wine, yellow ochre, rotten stone, matches, table salt, mustard, sulphur, nux vomica, glue, gum shellac, and a choice selection of books and stationery.

Capitalists were the exception rather than the rule, it seems, justifying a short paragraph to the effect that a millionaire in Cincinnati by the name of Longworth owned property on which he paid annually more than \$30,000 in state tax.

News, listed fourth in the Herald's quaint dedication, must have been scarce, unimportant or unprintable in 1855. Not a word about tourist activities; no mention of early spring shoppers; nothing about the volume of citrus shipments; no details of informal teas, or the activities of the younger set; not a paragraph about visiting Seminoles with buckskins to trade for homespun, white mule and store-bought tobacco; not even a list of applications for final decrees.

As one turns the musty pages and tries to imagine it fresh from the Washington hand press, there is conjured up the usual crowd of loafers in hickory shirts sitting on their heels, whittling pine sticks, and spitting into the bonfire in front of the general store; mules biting the bark off hitching posts, and waiting patiently for home and salted corn-shucks; ox teams, clicking horns as they plod through deep sand with squeaky, wobbly-wheeled

log carts; buzzards, shoving and quarreling for a place of vantage on the tall dead pine on the corner of Franklin and Lafayette streets; gulls circling over the water-front, shrilling the same chorus then as today--in brief, a snapshot glimpse of little Tampa town before the Civil War.

Approximately
7,000 words

Newspapers - Tampa
Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida

RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS
Tampa Tribune file from 1893

The Tampa Morning Tribune started as a daily in 1893, and at that time was called The Morning Tribune. It was published every day except Monday, and on Tuesday a weekly edition was published, carrying a resume of all news of the week. Only the weekly edition is preserved in the early Tribune files, starting with Vol. I - No. 8, dated April 4, 1893.

The weekly Tribune was a 6-column, 8-page paper, on comparatively good newsprint, and its files are remarkably well preserved, except for a few issues, which seem to have been of poorer quality paper.

On the masthead appeared:

" -Members of-

The Florida Press Association

-Affiliated with-

National Editorial Association"

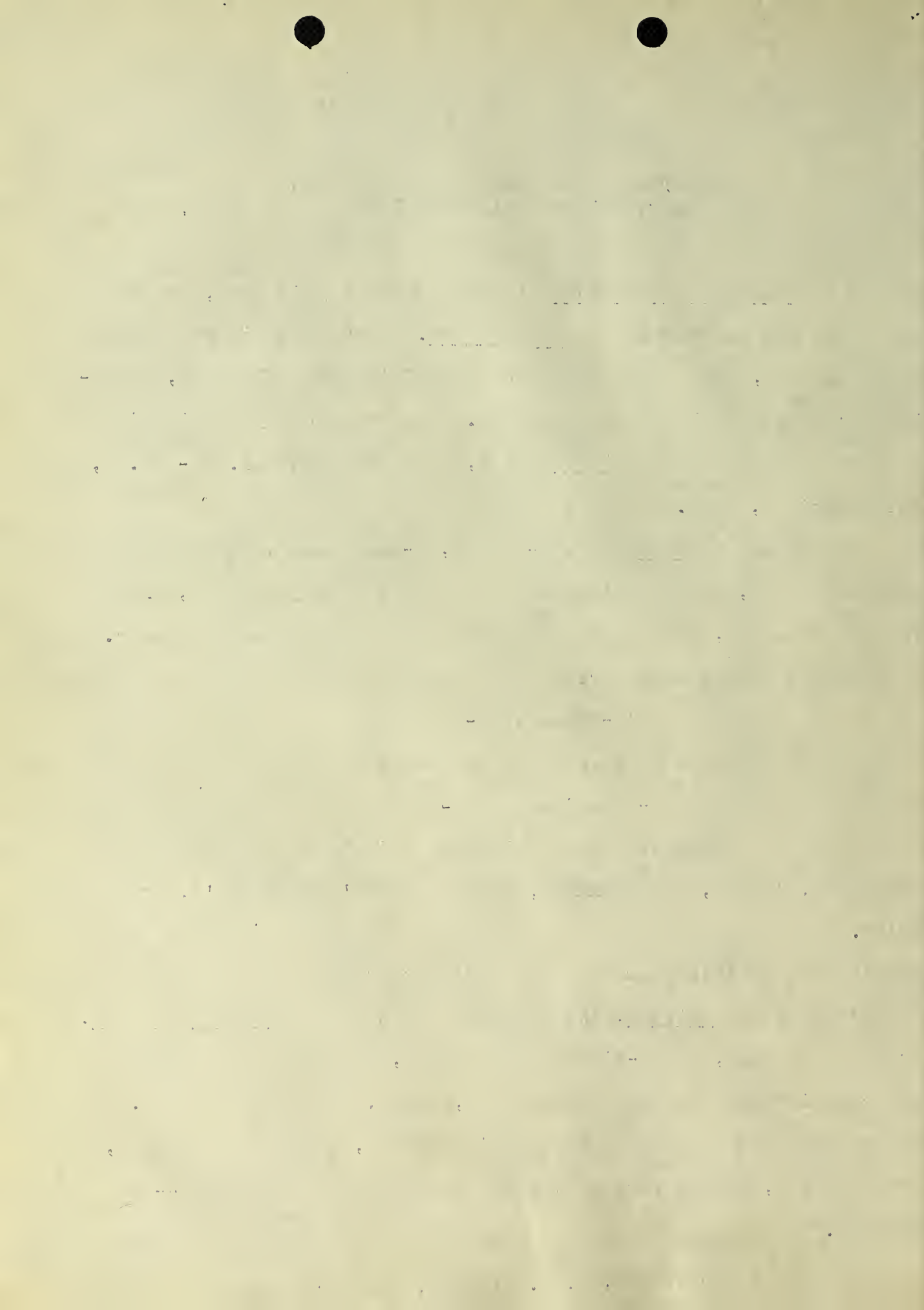
The motto, "PLUCK, PERSEVERANCE, PROGRESS AND 'PATRIOTISM'", appeared below.

Also on the masthead was the following paragraph:

"The weekly Tribune, the weekly edition of the Morning Tribune, is an eight page, forty-eight column paper, published every Tuesday and contains all the news of the week, Local, State and General. It is the best weekly paper published in Florida, and will be mailed, postage free, to any part of the United States for \$1 a year--in advance."

Editor and Publisher, W. F. Stovall, was formerly editor of the

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Polk County News at Bartow. Early issues of the Tribune carried paragraphs from the Gainesville Sun, Plant City Courier, Kissimmee Gazette, Lakeland Cracker, Tallahassee Floridian, Leesburg Commercial, Manatee County Advocate and others, congratulating him on his new venture as editor and publisher of the Tribune.

Content of early issues was largely advertising, including many legal notices. Almost all local news, society items included, occupied the front page, and was highly garnished. Superlatives and unusual words apparently were the order of the day. Accounts of weddings and funerals took up many column inches on page 1. Obituaries were written no doubt with the idea of causing tears to spring to the reader's eyes. For example, on the front page of the issue of June 22, 1893:

"A Sad Death"

"Died on Sunday evening June 11th, Mrs. Emma Marshall, wife of George T. Marshall and sister of Hon. T. M. Shackelford. The death of this truly gentle lady has cast a gloom over our whole community. Unassuming, modest and quiet in life and demeanor she yet exemplified in a most beautiful and thorough manner, the religion she professed, making it a reality in her daily living; a consistent and devoted member of the Christian church, she died in the sure and steadfast hope of a blessed immortality. We will not mourn for her; to her, death is but the entrance into a higher, purer and better life; but for the dear little boys she has left motherless and the kind, loving husband, who mourn her loss, our tender sympathy is given."

Reporters were as alert in those days seemingly as now, and the problem of covering distance was somehow solved. Items from neighboring

(3)

Old Newspaper Material
Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida.

communities were covered by resident correspondents, who gave readers a better insight into their characteristics than they did of the news, and frequently factual matter suffered on this account. The news from Thonotosassa appearing June 6, 1893, page 6, as an example, imparted this information:

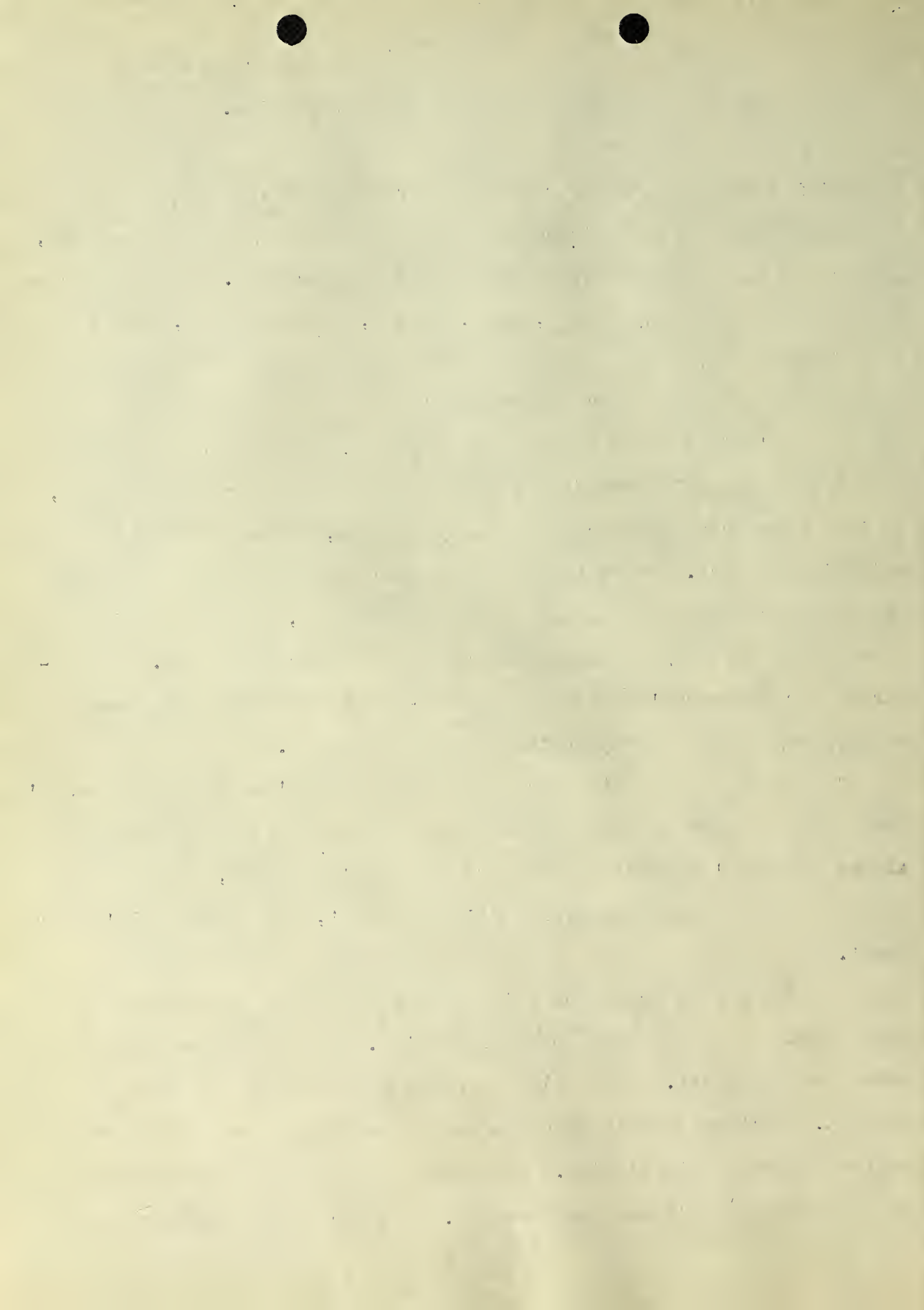
"THONOTOSASSA"

"Bright Newsy Paragraphs of a Local Nature"

"If I have not been given to local items from our neighborhood, it is not because there are not plenty of them, but because of weightier matters. Nevertheless people are fond of bits of local news and neighborhood gossip gleaned through the press, but farmers in the country are too busy to travel around much in search of them. By comparing correspondent's notes your numerous readers in the city and country may become fairly posted in passing events.

"Idlewild cottage will hardly be expected to 'contract its powers' when it is remembered that the editor of the Morning Tribune kindly allows liberal 'margins' to his correspondent's airings, even if they do not always treat exclusively of 'local news', and these well 'boiled down'.

"In the way of crops and climate this portion of Florida cannot be beaten taking all things into consideration. The spring weather has been almost perfect. Rains plenty enough all through seed time and harvest. Northern people make a mistake when they select the winter season only to visit Florida. The summer season is by far the best and most satisfactory if all could see it. I observe this year many



northerners have remained later than usual and their united expressions of delightful surprise carry out my assertion. The idea of coming to Florida in the summer will annually become more general especially for those who wish to make Florida a permanent home. Winter tourists are of course another class, but even these are getting their eyes open."

Followed then a paragraph of embellished news interspersed with personal comment and signed

"Idlewild Cottage-

W. C. C."

Another of June 15, 1893, page 8, supplied these enlightening facts showing the importance of the weather as a source of news:

"Valrico Doings"

"Special Correspondence Morning Tribune"

"We are having fine rains here now, for which we are truly thankful. I never saw corn looking better; what a beautiful world this is anyway. How can people bear to live in crowded cities away from the pure air and soft waters of our glassy lakes? I might say how can anyone be contented out of Florida, with our mild climate, our great variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables? And of late what a development of mineral productions, phosphate, covering a large part of the State, then porcelain clay, and mineral paint of several colors, now someone has discovered a great quantity of cement. What will be the next find? I should like to find a few diamonds on my place. Will let you know, if I do.

"We have quite a settlement of young married people here now, and are glad to welcome Mr. Truax, who has taken his young bride to live at the Harrison place, for the present; about half way between Valrico and Bloomingdale.

(5)

Old Newspaper Material
Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida.

"The missionary Baptist have been holding a protracted meeting at Mt. Pleasant school house and have organized a new church; they have had a flourishing Sunday School there for several years.

"The infant left by Mrs. Albert Wallace was adopted by Mrs. Sanford Bryan; it was brought to her when three days old, and no hopes entertained of its living; it is now a month old, has gained several pounds and is doing well. Mrs. Bryan has a little boy of her own, just five days older. Almost twins.

"Mrs. Morrell has put up sixty-five quarts of fruit, forty-four quarts were blackberry jam. They have some peaches that weigh twenty-one ounces each, I measured one peento that was seven inches around.

"Don't let our legislature pass any immoral bills. Women ought to help make the laws. C. A."

On May 23, 1893, page 5, religion got ahead of the rains:

"Peru Items"

"The Baptist meeting which was held for fourteen days closed Thursday. A church was established and now has twenty-eight members. This has indeed been a successful revival, many have reformed and been converted, and we hope will prove faithful to their duties in future.

"Miss Minnie Bridges opened school with sixteen pupils. She gives some of her scholars music lessons and all seem well pleased with the progress they are making.

"We had a fine rain Tuesday which was much needed. Watermelons are doing well, peas are coming up and we expect a big yield of pumpkins in the fall, judging from the flourishing condition of the vines.

"Oranges are all gone, at least from our grove, and much are they missed."

On April 18, 1893--page 2, religion still held first place over the weather:

"Mango Items"

"Breezy Items Epitomized and Grouped"

"The pulpit of this place was occupied by Father Graham of Tampa, on last Sabbath, and he preached two most excellent sermons, particularly the one in the forenoon which was especially for the young men. Come out, young and old, of both sex and all denominations, and hear this aged Father in Israel, he will do you good.

"We congratulate the Tribune on having made such good progress during its short sojourn with us. And shall endeavor to assist in its further advancement in every way possible. Ta Ta."

May 16, 1893--page 7, crops got the lead:

"Seffner Squibs"

"As a rule crops in this section, if the season continues to be good, will turn out first-class and the farmers wont have to buy corn for another year.

"Seffner has recently organized a literary society with J. P. Hill, Esq., as president.

"A good number of our citizens attended the Sunday School picnic at Valrico on the 4th inst. and report the occasion as being a grand success in every particular. This grand affair reflects much credit upon the two schools that participated, which were Mount Pleasant and Limona.

"Some of our bachelor friends have gone to keeping 'bach' in grand style. Among them we note E. Snow, W. T. Droffie and E. Todd.

"Rev. W. D. Young preached at Bethlehem church on Sunday last. At the close two appeared for membership. A. F. B."

May 16, 1893--page 7, furnished a piece of signed philosophy, revealing that old age pension was then a live subject:

"FUNNY, ISN'T IT?"

"'What Fools These Mortals Be'---Bill Neeld Talks of Better Things."

Special Correspondence Morning Tribune

"Yes, it is laughable, serious as it is, that we wish on, conforming instead of reforming. We are living up to institutions and constitutions, which are revolting to our higher sense and better natures. We are really better than should be expected, while we are much worse than we would like to be. We would all like to live for this life and for today but preparation for a 'rainy day' takes all the shine from the fair. Habit is second nature. We do not like to save but rather to spend money, but save we must or come to want and poverty in old age. It is those who make and spend their money freely who become poor themselves while making others rich. It seems that those whose life and labor has built up others are justly entitled to bed and bread in old age and helplessness. We are wont to curse these as thriftless, trifling, who have made and spent and enjoyed the first part of their lives and are willing to bear the inevitable consequences when the muscles are stiff and bones full of pain. I would turn this life into a frolic and earth into heaven--why not? As we are but waiting to acquire fortune enough

to live easy and spend freely, while never attaining that; may we not slip up on the calculations for the other (?) life. The reason why faith and hope for the future is so strong has its foundation and base in the disappointments of their life. 'Never is, but always to be blest.' All will concede this is the way out of these ruts, is the 'rub'. Check the monopolies, break the corporate power, change the present tendencies to wealth and to poverty. Cultivate personal habit, let every brain reach higher, let every heart stoop lower, let every tongue preach the vanity and falsity of the present order of things."

"Bill Neeld"

April 25, 1893--Page 1

A column of front page locals bears this head---"Social Nosegay", and follows with a sub-head that speaks for itself---"Bright Bouquet of Local Odor For Our Readers." An afterthought is added in another sub-head---"In Condensed Form". A third sub-head is still more enlightening---"A Budget of Newsy Items Gathered On the Streets and Boiled Down for the Edification of The Tribune Readers." This column appears on the extreme left hand side of the page. Then, apparently for the purpose of balancing the front page makeup there appears on the extreme right another column of locals that is headed---"Home Runs" with three sub-heads that read as follows: "Local Bits Condensed Into Short Paragraphs"---"For Tribune Readers"---"Items Picked Up In the City and Suburbs and Put In Type for Delectation of the People at Home and Abroad."

The front page accounts of local weddings were widely elaborated, and gave a minute description of not only the wedding itself, but of the

attire of each participant. Judging from the description, some of the gowns worn by the women in the party were worth fabulous amounts. Sometimes weddings took on the more simple form of an elopement, which was probably not quite so outstanding as the elaborate church and home weddings but much more exciting as is portrayed by the following account:

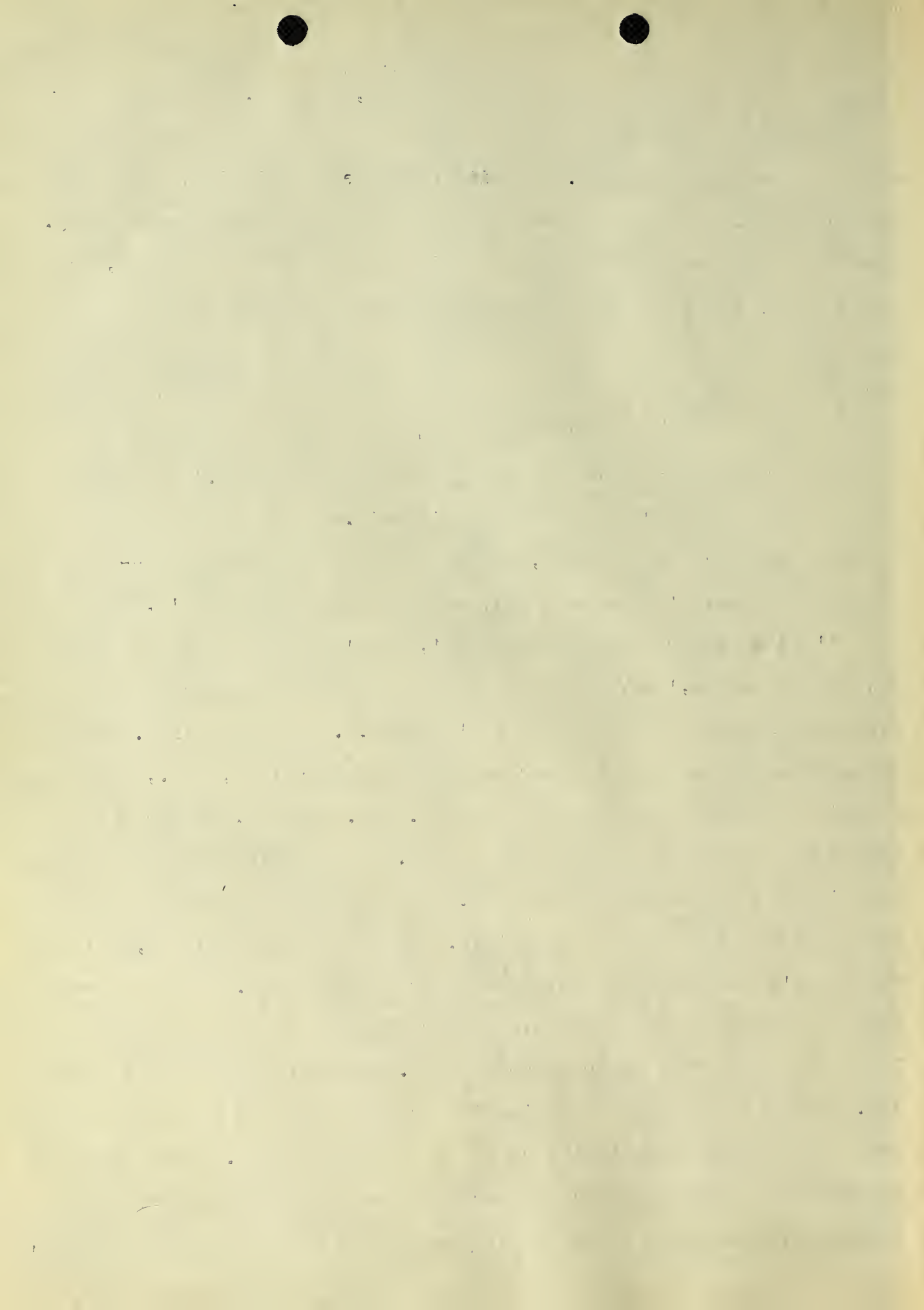
"HE GOT THERE"

"A Florida Cracker Does Up an Indiana Hoosier."

"A Mother Pleads in Vain."

"The Daughter Did Not Heed, and Her Indiana Lover Sent For--
The Fair Damsel's Hand was His, But Her Heart was Harry's."

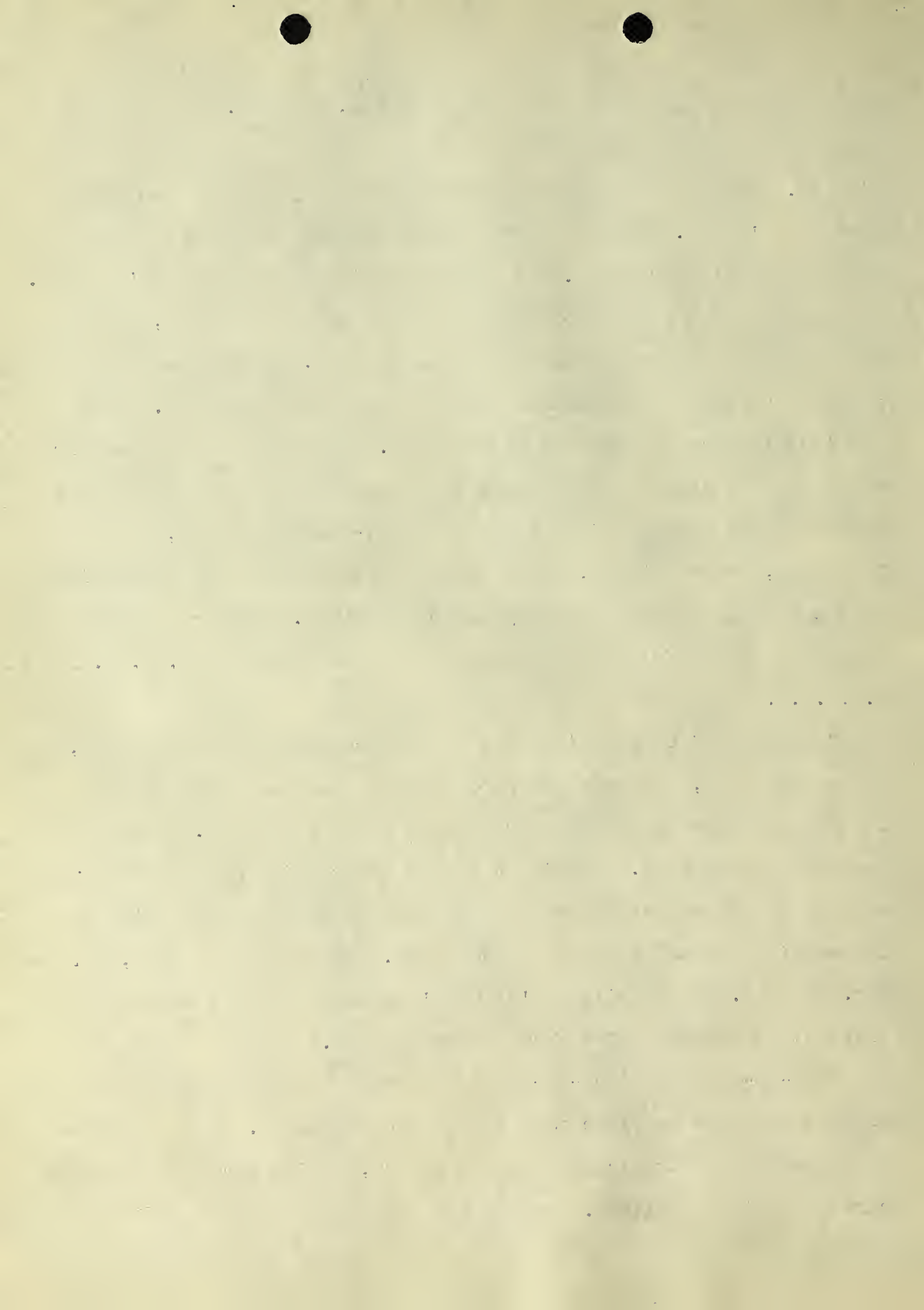
"'Truth is stranger than fiction', and 'the course of true love never runs smooth,' were verified in the marriage of a certain prominent young gentleman of this city at 4 o'clock a.m. Sunday morning. An accomplished young lady and her mother from Evansville, Ind., have been spending the season here and at Manatee. Mr. Harry G. Warner met her and it was a case of love at first sight. Her mother objected to his suit it is said because Miss Cora B. Armstrong was engaged to another gentleman who remained at Evansville. While her hand was his, her heart was Harry's and she was determined never to marry him. Gentle words availed nothing with Miss Cora, and her mother wired the Evansville lover who made great haste to come south. He arrived on Saturday evening. Perhaps Harry was to claim Miss Armstrong as his dearest onliest own within a few days was the cause of this hasty trip. Immediately on his arrival at Manatee Harry Warner got a message and he rushed for his naphtha launch which lay quietly along the waters to do her master's



bidding. Within a few moments he was on his way and arrived there about 10 o'clock. Never had the faithful launch made more speed nor contained a stouter heart. To win or to die was brave Harry's motto. Very quietly the young lady was made aware of his presence, and she made an excuse to go upstairs to comb her hair, and she hastily gathered a few things together and stole down the back way. Harry was true to Cora and she was true to him. They fled with all their might for the launch and within a few minutes they were gliding the waters of the Manatee river like the fleet-winged swallow, a genuine Lochinvar, not on skates, but a naphtha launch with hearts tingling with a strange admixture of joy and uncertainty. They reached the parsonage of the Episcopal church and were married by Rev. J. A. Cross, D.D.L.L.D.

"Learning of their flight the Hoosier came hastily in pursuit, but he was too late, his love had gone and the heart and form he had thought to claim as his own were in the arms of another. How miserable and wretched he felt. In his moment of distraction he burnt the wires with messages to sheriffs and marshalls at points between this and Jacksonville to arrest them on their way. But he is too late, Mr. and Mrs. Harry G. Warner will be 'at home' to their friends after a pleasant honeymoon in New York and Washington."

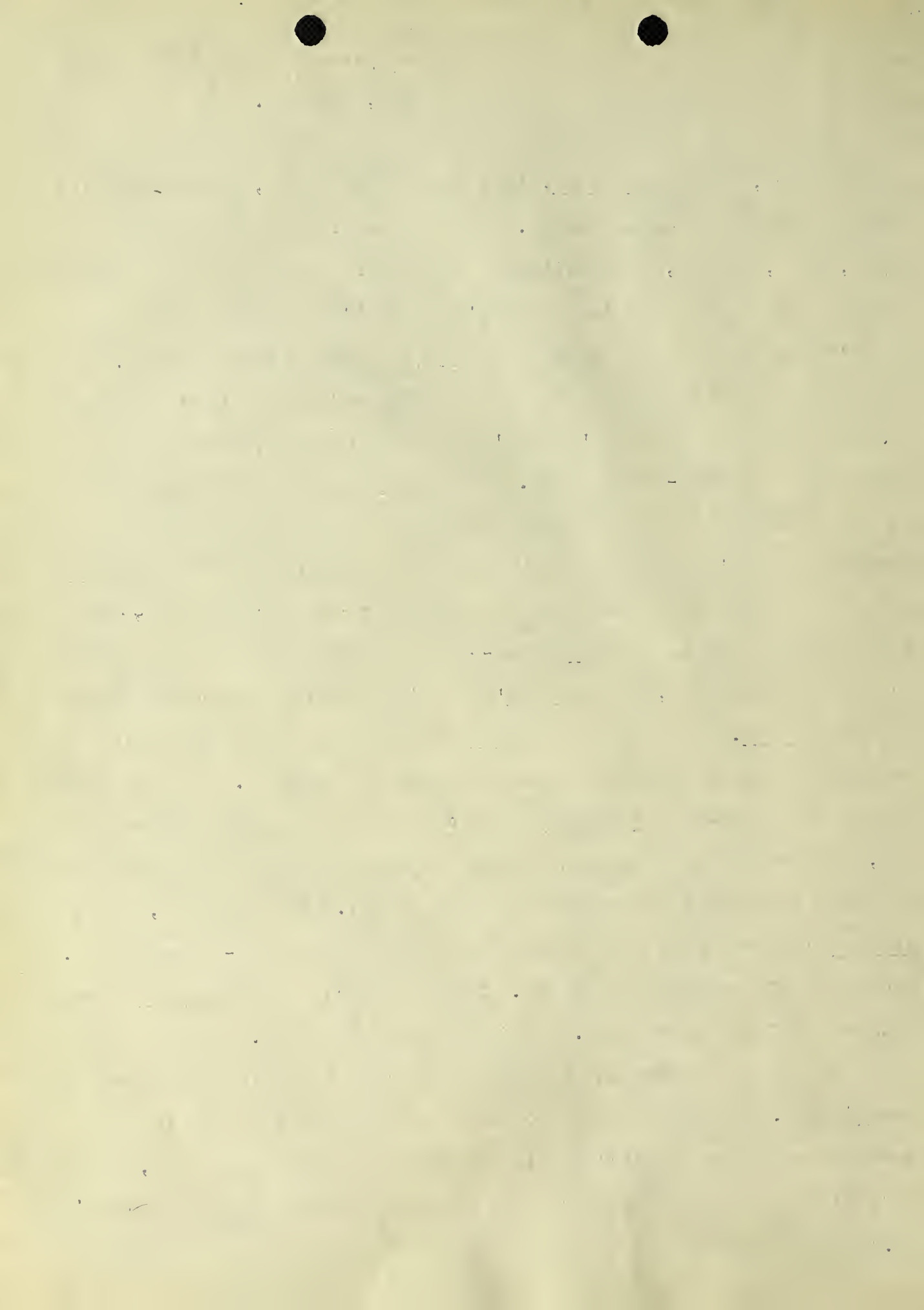
"Out-of-state and out-of-town news was carried on inside pages, with usually one complete page devoted to exchanges. Much space was also given to controversies between papers, biting sarcasm being the current medium of attack. For example the Tribune christened its



contemporary, the Tampa Times, "The Evening Attempt", and on occasion played it in no uncertain terms. For instance, in the issue of May 2, 1893, page 4, this editorial appeared:

"A Contempt's Attempt"

"The attempt of the Evening Attempt to show contempt for the intelligence of the people of this city by parading before the public one and a half columns of 'padded' telegrams as an inducement of patronage is a bare-faced fraud. If the Attempt is going to ask the citizens of Tampa to respect that paper because of its telegraphic service why don't it get a service that is respectable? The Tribune gives the people six columns of telegraphic news every morning, four times as much as the Attempt gives--and let it be called by any name or means they please, the Tribune's service is superior to that given by the Attempt. The way the Attempt blows its telegraphic service reminds of a very little boat with a great big whistle. If that paper will give its readers verbatim dispatches it gets before padding them out, its service will dwindle into an insignificance wholly unworthy the name of being a telegraphic service at all. For instance, the Tribune came out yesterday morning with news from forty-three points, exclusive of condensed telegrams. In the afternoon the Attempt came out with fifteen news items. It is just so every day. Not a half a dozen of the dispatches in our service ever did or ever will appear in the Attempt. When it happens to find one or two dispatches in our columns that have occurred in its own it is a wonder to behold, and it parades itself around the streets as proudly as a negro with a red shirt on."



The Tribune, then but a journalistic infant, did not hesitate to jump upon its stronger, older brother, the Florida Times-Union, like a bantam rooster hopping a buff cochin. For example, May 30, 1893, page 4:

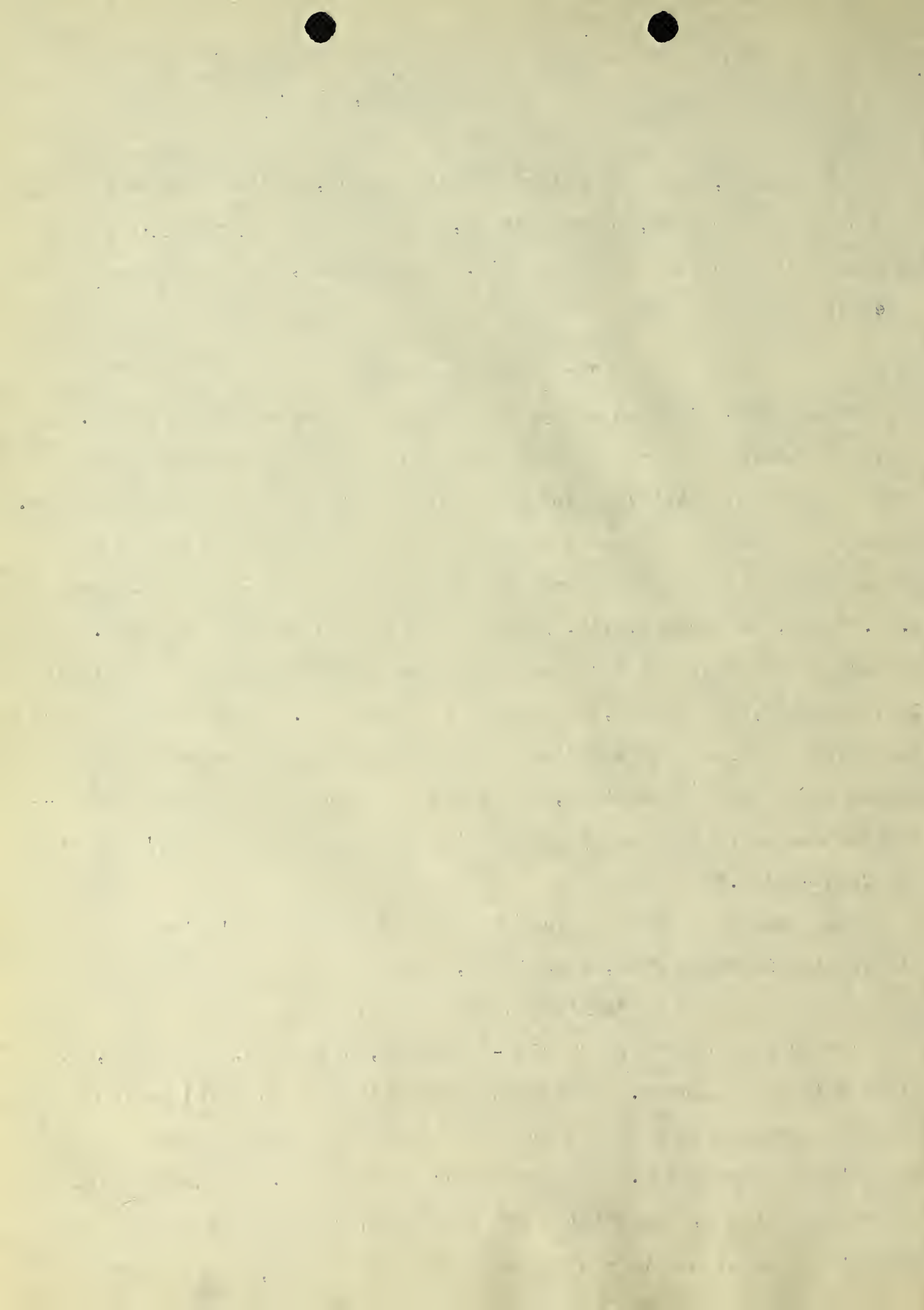
"Grumbling Again"

"The Times-Union has always been noted for its sensitive spots. A little rubbing in the wrong direction is always very irritating to its imperial person; a little disappointment usually makes it slightly cross. Therefore it was not at all unnatural for it to manifest a little ill-temper because Governor Mitchell did not see fit to re-appoint Judge W. B. Young, of Jacksonville, judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit. Its censure of the governor for thus exercising his own judgment and rights in the matter, is however, uncalled for and unfair. It has yet to learn that Governor Mitchell is faithfully redeeming his pledge made both before and since his election, to be the 'governor of the whole people--not the executive officer of any faction or clique or coterie,' nor of the Times-Union."

That newspapers were subject to libel suits in the '90's is revealed in the May 30, 1893 issue, page 2:

"A Libel Suit"

"Our contemporary the Courier-Informant, of Bartow, has a \$25,000 libel suit on its hands. Brother Stevens will have to quit puffing phosphate now and look around for a few dollars to answer Judge Hanson's questions with. The reason for the suit is, the publication of certain matters, editorially and otherwise, relative to Judge Hanson's connection with the Summerlin Institute fund, detrimental to



his character as a Christian and a gentleman. Col. E. W. Codrington, mayor of the town and an officer in the Polk County National Bank, and Capt. B. F. Jackson, President of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, are jointly sued for \$25,000 for the same offense. A man's character is a sacred thing, and people would do well to consider before publishing anything that will reflect on a man's integrity. The papers have been served."

Life's complexities, the eternal triangle, man's bellicose nature, woman's feline propensities--all were likewise evidenced in the '90's according to the April 11, 1893 issue, page 1:

"Pulled His Hair"

"And Beat the Old Gentleman up Pretty Badly, so He Says."

"Mr. Horace Greely Thomas, who lives a little out of town, is having a little noteriety just now which he does not relish. From some cause or other one night this week Mr. Thomas met Mrs. West, a tenant on his place, and beat her up considerably. Mrs. West informed her husband of the affair. During the day (Friday) Mr. and Mrs. West went to the Thomas house and found him lying down reading a newspaper. Mr. Thomas says they both went for him and beat him up considerably with a buggy whip. Not being satisfied with this they returned that night after Mr. Thomas had sought rest in the arms of Morpheus, instead of the arms of his enamorata, as in the days of yore, and most unmercifully pummeled him with their fists and pulled his hair greatly to his bodily harm.

"The next morning before Mr. Thomas could don his Sunday best for a trip to the city the couple again jumped into his wheel house and done him up in great shape--raising cain generally instead of cabbage.

"This is Mr. Thomas' side of the story as told when he went before Judge Harrison yesterday afternoon for warrants of arrest for Mr. and Mrs. Walter West. The case will come up tomorrow."

Momentum civic problems that confronted the city council were part of the day's grist, May 2, 1893, page 8:

"The question of empounding cattle was being discussed in the council meeting Friday night. Councilman J. S. McFall offered a resolution requiring any milch cow kept in the pound longer than six hours to be milked.

"Geo. T. Chamberlain--'Who shall milk the cow?'

"J. S. McFall--The City.

"Geo. T. C.--Who shall drink the milk?'

"McFall--The City Council.

"For once our city fathers threw off the staid dignity of age and indulged in the hearty laughter of youth."

A front page wedding announcement June 15, 1893, headed--"Cupid's Darts" emphasized the importance of the principals:

"Yesterday evening at the College Street Baptist Church at Dade City, Mr. C. W. Furman and Miss Lula May Wilson were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. They are both high-toned society ornaments and the Tribune joins their host of friends in extending heart-felt congratulations and sincerely hopes that all of their troubles may be little ones."

Progress of Negro education came to the front in July 15, 1893, page 8:

"Brightest In School."

"A Little Bow-Legged Negro Recites for a School Official"

"Just before the closing of the country schools one of the school officials paid a visit to one of the country negro schools to see how they were getting along.

"After the official had satisfied himself as to the workings of the school and was about to depart the teacher began telling him of the precocity of one of her pupils and wound up by saying that she would be glad if the official would remain and hear the child. The official consented, and on being called, an ugly little bow-legged negro girl squared herself full in front of the official and repeated the following lines:

'Little drops of whisky
 Poured on broken ice,
Little grains of sugar--
 Of lemon peel a slice.
A little Angostura
 Bitters to the taste,
Is what we call a cocktail
 In the United States.'

"The official left the school without making any comment."

RECAPITULATION

The Tribune file for 1893 reveals a more or less low spot in the growth of the city. The railroad had come nearly ten years before, the cigar industry likewise, and the novelty of Plant's Tampa Bay hotel had begun to wear off. Military events that were to blazon Tampa in the headlines of the nation and the world were still five years off.

Building seems to have been at a standstill, for 1893 was a panic year as testified to by a run that caused the Gulf National bank to close its door. Directors, however, pronounced it solvent, indicating that a banker's conception of solvency was no different then than 40 years later in 1933. A new bank was later organized but the Gulf National never again opened its doors.

The lull in development, nevertheless, seems to have aroused a certain amount of civic consciousness. An association was formed to open a bay boulevard, announcement of which conveyed the information that Franklin was the only paved street in town. Attention was also called to the sloshing of sewage from barrels into the streets and a plea made for the correction of unsanitary conditions that might cause a recurrence of a deadly plague.

Tampa was also getting a plentitude of lights and street car service with three power companies in the field, indicating that franchises were not monopolies in those days. At the same time a channel was being deepened to permit phosphate ships to dock.

Journalistic flourishes were also still in order, but beginning to take their place was telegraphic news, with arguments as to which paper rendered the better service. Stripped of editorial trimmings the

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Old Newspaper Material
Corinne White Lanne
Tampa, Florida

Tribune reflected a prosaic period the first year of its existence as shown by a recapitulation of news coverage:

April 4, 1893---A front page item stating that the Steamer Mascotte had arrived the previous day with 54 passengers from Havana and 25 from Key West indicated that Tampa was important as a port.

April 4, 1893---A front page story boasted that Tampa had three electric light plants at that time. J. F. Pearce, superintendent of the Tampa Electric, told reporters that his company had planned to install new equipment. The story went on to say,--"This pushing, plucky little company proposes to give the people of Tampa a first-class service within the next four weeks."

April 4, 1893---A front page item said Capt. J. A. McKay expected to start laying new sidewalk on the west and south sides of the Court House square as soon as material arrived. Plans specified that the ground be graded with a three inch base of clay before the surface of Macon pressed brick with cement was laid.

April 4, 1893---On page one a gentleman from St. Pete and intermediate points reported that though many tourists were leaving for their northern homes, some were remaining all summer to bask in the Florida sunshine.

April 4, 1893---Another statement on page one gave the gross amount of Tampa's customs for March as \$44,477.19, of which \$44,000 was remitted to Washington.

April 4, 1893---A head on page two read--"The Only Mule in the Country that Lives on a Pension." The story told of an old mule named Mexico that served for 40 years with the U.S. army and was then hauling water for the soldiers at the reservation. He had just been pensioned and freed from harness for the rest of his life by an act of Congress, and was a familiar sight roaming about the streets of Tampa plucking the choice bits of grass in the streets and leading a rollicking life.

April 4, 1893---Page 2--A livery stable ad read as follows:

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Old Newspaper Material
Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida.

"LOUIS G. CONE

Livery, Sale
and
Feed Stables

Corner Madison St. and Florida Ave.
Finest Assortment of Driving and Saddle Horses in the City
All Drivers in Full Livery

Undertaker, Embalmer and Funeral Director,
The Largest and Most Complete Stock of
Caskets, Coffins and Shrouds in South Florida

Embalming and the Preparation of Bodies for Shipment a Specialty
Orders from the Country Will Receive Prompt Attention."

April 4, 1893---On page two the "Good Health Kitchen" advertises meals for 25¢.

April 4, 1893---The masthead on page four announced W. F. Stovall as editor and publisher and W. L. Andrews as associate editor.

April 4, 1893---An item on page 4 reported that Hillsborough County taxpayers contemplated establishing a criminal court.

April 4, 1893---A story on page four with a New Orleans date line of April 3 carried the information that John L. Sullivan "is getting fat"--weighing 202 pounds, and had a fear of dying of heart disease as his mother had died of it some time before.

April 11, 1893---A new sewerage system was proposed by Col. George E. Waring, who said he had traveled all over the country and had never before seen sewage carried through the streets in uncovered carts with barrels "sloshing over" in any civilized community.

April 11, 1893--Page five carried a large display ad telling how the tobacco habit could be cured; also the liquor and dope habit.

April 11, 1893--On page six was described the largest dredge boat on the continent at Port Tampa wharf--115 ft. in length with a 43 ft. beam. Its purpose was to cut a channel 300 ft. wide for three quarters of a mile from the end of the pier to shore to facilitate the loading of phosphate. "When this canal is dug", said the article,

"and the government cuts the four outlying bars down to a depth of twenty-five feet at low tide then the largest ships of the world can come into our port. A very important point for the city of Tampa."

- April 11, 1893--On Page 7 appeared an open letter to the Tribune from Mrs. L. P. Chamberlain on Woman Suffrage, who promised to give a report the following week on the National Woman Suffrage Convention at Washington to which she was a delegate.
- April 11, 1893--Page 8, in a resume of activities of the state legislature then in session at Tallahassee it was stated that Hillsborough County was to get a criminal court.
- April 18, 1893--"A House Wanted" headed a front page want ad which read--"A good dwelling house close to the public square with three or more rooms wanted. Address 'House' care Tribune."
- April 18, 1893--The Iowa Press Association, 160 strong, was reported holding a convention at the Tampa Bay Hotel.
- April 18, 1893--A page three item warned owners to look out for their dogs as officers equipped with lariets and wagons were out looking for dogs without tags.
- April 18, 1893--On page four under the head of "Nihilists and Anarchists," followed an account of an employee of Suarez's cigar factory at Port Tampa who approached the bookkeeper, Mr. Fuertez, to borrow an advance on his pay and have Mr. Fuertez take the amount from his envelope on pay day. The bookkeeper let him have the money but when he withheld the amount on pay day the employee attacked him viciously, scratching and biting his face and mutilating him so that his teeth showed through the wound in his jaw. Fuertez refused to make a complaint lest the man do him more personal violence, and for fear other employees might be incited to strike. The item launched into a lecture against crime and told of a club of nihilists and anarchists with pictures in their clubroom of August Spies and his companions in crime of Haymarket fame. The writer thought the cigar factory case was either incited by this band or influenced by it.
- April 25, 1893--On page seven was proclaimed a new street railway service in Tampa. With wires strung and rail laid the company only awaited its rolling stock, and expected to have cars in operation the following week.

May 2, 1893---A front page story described a meeting of the Boss Fire Companies of the state held in Tampa the day before.

May 2, 1893---Page four carried an editorial on the Chicago World's Fair.

May 2, 1893---This issue carried many display ads using up about half of the paper and including such articles and businesses as: groceries, dry goods, tailors, jewelry, fishermen's supplies, pianos, restaurants, novelty works, architects, contractors, building material, railroads, pottery, engineering, iron and brass foundry, whisky and brandy, real estate, loan association, racket store, clothing, banks, millinery, feed stores, livery stables, lumber steamship lines, meat shops, sheet metal works, brick, furniture, harness, caligraph writing machine (typewriter), patent medicines which include "Flylene" guaranteed to keep flies and other insects from pestering animals, especially horses, and "Hill's Double Chloride of Gold Tablets" to cure the tobacco habit and "Special Formula Gold Cure Tablets" to cure drunkenness and the morphine habit.

May 2, 1893---On page seven was an account of strike troubles at the Sanchez and Haya cigar factory in Flor City.

May 16, 1893--A front page story announced operation of the new street car system by the Tampa Street Railway and Power Company--Tampa's second company.

May 16, 1893--A page one item let it be known that Tampa was to have a city directory to be compiled by J. O. Clark and Edward Moody, of Ocala, starting the following Monday.

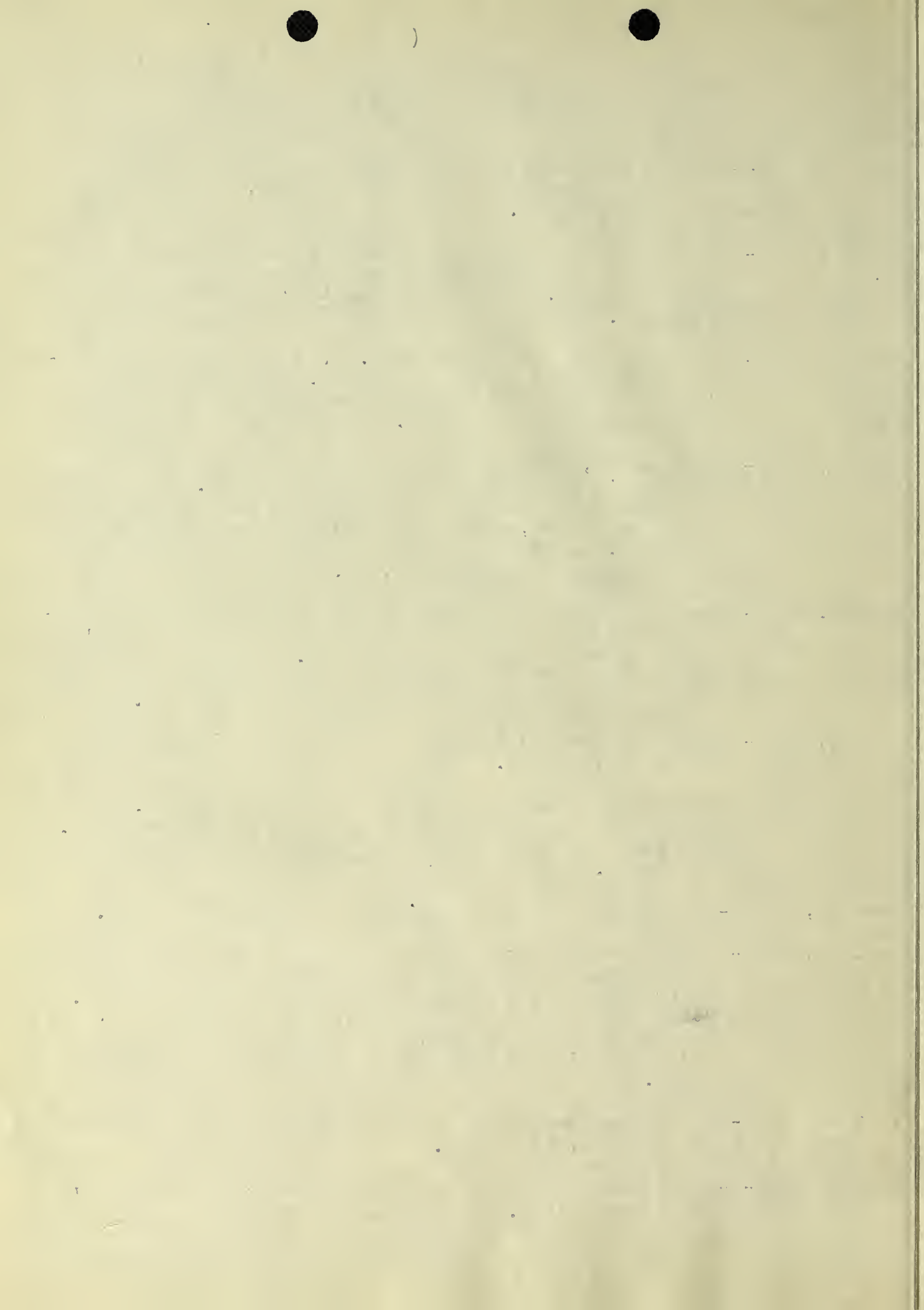
May 16, 1893--On page four an editorial took a slap at the Tampa Times, dubbed "The Evening Attempt", regarding an item in that paper concerning the city council.

May 16, 1893--A news story on page seven described progress in West Tampa. Five new cigar factories had recently been opened on the west side of the Hillsborough River with the Hugh C. Macfarlane Investment Company largely responsible for the development there.

May 23, 1893--Much of the front page news in this issue was devoted to activities of the state legislature at Tallahassee.

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- May 30, 1893---A page one story told the world that the Gulf National Bank had closed its doors after a run, but pronounced the bank solvent.
- May 30, 1893---Another front page story made a plea for the public to use lime in closets and back alleys not only on account of the stench, but to avert another yellow fever epidemic.
- May 30, 1893---A page three item reported H. B. Plant making improvements around the Tampa Bay hotel. In speaking of Tampa's improvements Franklin Street was referred to as the only paved street in town.
- May 30, 1893---Page seven, a story told of the setting up of the Consumer's Electric Light and Power Plant. The statement was made that it was one of the best in the Southern States, affording enough power to furnish lighting, railway, manufacturing and other enterprises necessary for a city of 50,000.
- May 30, 1893---On page eight a local item said the Tampa Street Railway and Power Company was the proud owner of Tampa's first electric fan run by a motor. Employees in an office above the Gulf National Bank were keeping cool by the 12 inch fan run by a 1/8 horse power motor.
- June 6, 1893---Page one carried the story of the adjourning of the state legislature.
- June 6, 1893---Page eight gave an account of a terrible wreck. A span of horses became frightened at a dog on Nebraska Ave. and ran into a telephone pole smashing the tongue of the buggy.
- June 15, 1893---Offered an item from Braidentown, (now Bradenton).
- June 15, 1893---A front page story announced that the Louisiana State Lottery was buying land at Port Tampa with the intention of erecting a group of buildings to use for offices. As state law prohibited lotteries, the actual lottery was to be carried on at an island off Honduras so officials would not mind if business offices were located at Port Tampa.
- June 15, 1893---A story on page seven gave an account of the death of Edwin Booth, the actor.
- July 6, 1893---On the front page appeared a picture of the Tribune's new Potter Press.



- July 6, 1893---Page 2. A long article told of the immense output of phosphate in this section, most of it shipped from the port of Tampa.
- July 6, 1893---On the front page was a report of Tampa's celebration of the Fourth of July attended by Gov. H.L. Mitchell, a former Tampan.
- July 13, 1893--A front page society column revealed the proper technique of reporting that type of news: "Handsome Edgar Wall and his bewitching and queenly sister, Miss Willie, left Friday night for Chicago, where they go to the Fair and to visit other places of note."
The same issue described Knight and Wall's new store.
- July 20, 1893--On page three was related the development and growth of Plant City, noted for strawberries even then.
- July 27, 1893--On page three appeared a legal advertisement of an ordinance creating a department of sanitation for the city, passed by the city council May 26, but vetoed by the Mayor and passed by a 2/3 vote over his veto at the July meeting of the council.
- Aug. 10, 1893--A front page story told of a proposal by the Bay Shore Driveway Association, H. B. Plant president, to build a Bay Shore Driveway.
- Aug. 31, 1893--described the handsome new residence of Col. J. M. Long, proprietor of the Tampa Ice Works, in Hyde Park, which just had been completed.
- Sept. 14, 1893-A front page warning to the public stated that Sheriff Spencer's bloodhounds, Nip and Tuck, had arrived, and followed with the statement that escape now was "practically impossible."
- Sept. 28, 1893-A long front page article was devoted to the death of Mrs. John T. Lesley, wife of the clerk of the circuit court, a typical example of superlative pathos in obituary writing of that period.
- Sept. 28, 1893--Among the front page society notes was the following:
"Gen. J. B. Wall, one of South Florida's most prominent legal luminary's, has given out a contract to erect a handsome \$3,000 mansion on his superb lot in beautiful Hyde Park."

Old Newspaper Material
 Corinne White Lamme
 Tampa, Florida

Sept. 28, 1893--An ad appeared on page seven for false teeth and
 painless extraction with laughing gas.

Sept. 28, 1893--

"What We Are Worth"

"Amount of Taxable Property in Hillsborough County for 1893"

"The Assessor Worth is one of the most methodical officials
 in the State and equally as obliging. In reply to the Tribune
 man who was in quest of an item, he furnished us with the
 following valuable information:

"No. of improved acres	18,724
Total number improved and unimproved acres	802,024.23
Valuation of town property	\$2,002,330.
Amount of State taxes	\$25,657.12
Amount of County taxes	39,652.23
Number of miles of railroad	124.16
Number of miles of telegraph	122
The aggregate amount of railroad and telegraph state and county taxes	\$10,303.14
The state and county tax of personal property amounts to	\$20,678.11

There are only 4,342 males over the age of 21 years that
 have paid their poll tax.

"Tax Assessor Worth's books are in a splendid fix, demon-
 strating that he is the right man in the right place."

Oct. 4, 1893---A front page story telling epitaphs on the graves of two
 deceased wives of a certain merchant not far from Tampa,
 not mentioning his name, but stating that he was now
 living with number three, said that the epitaphs read:
 "My Beloved Lily" and "My Cherished Violet". The writer then
 wondered what he would put on tombstone number three.

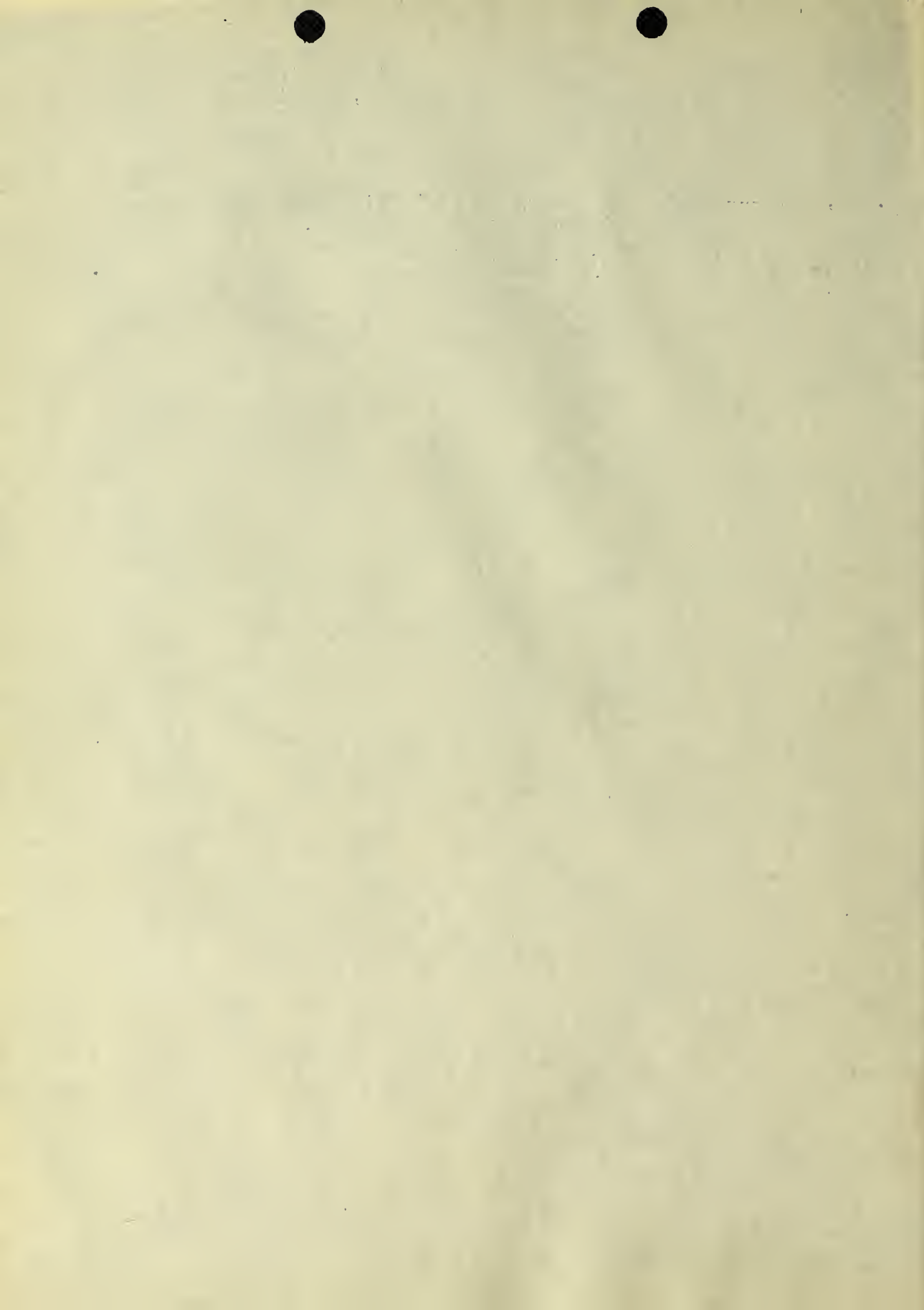
Oct. 20, 1893--On page six appeared a large ad in which the Tribune offered
 Chambers' Encyclopaedia--\$30 value for \$4--a circulation
 campaign for the Tribune.

Nov. 3, 1893---issue reported of a model brick building in Ybor City by
 the Ybor City Land and Improvement company for its offices
 and other business pursuits, but gave no street address.

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Old Newspaper Material
Corinne White Lamme
Tampa, Florida

Dec. 29, 1893---A long page story gave a vivid account of a race riot at Wildwood on Christmas day, explaining that the blacks were eventually subdued and a white instigator jailed in a neighboring town for safety.



10,000 words

Lindsay M. Bryan
Tampa, Florida
December 23, 1937

RESEARCH MATERIAL FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS
(News, anecdotes, customs and habits of early Floridians as
revealed in the Florida Peninsular of 1860-61)

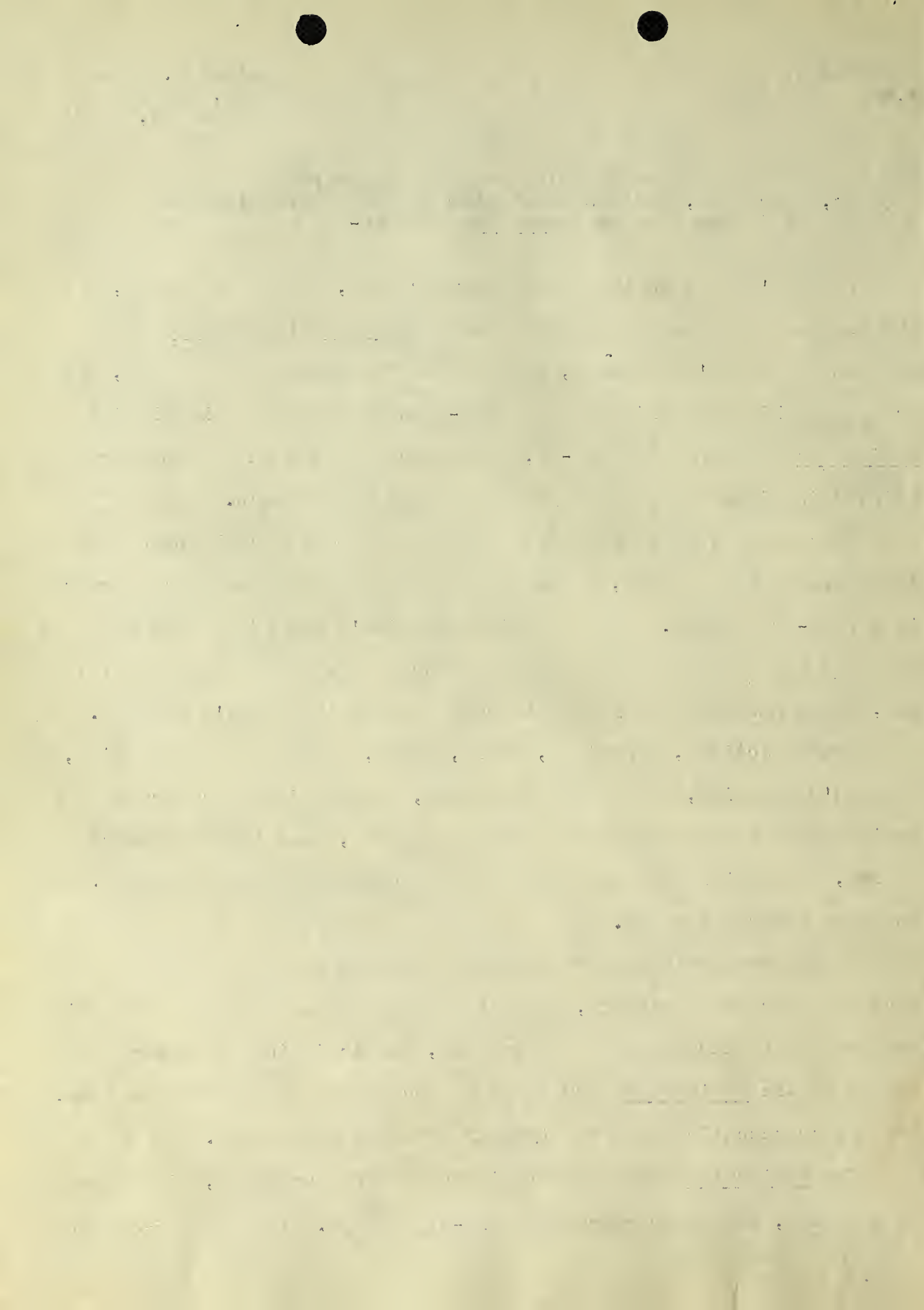
Florida's part in the romance and tragedy, humor and pathos, of the Old South in the early period famed by Gone With the Wind, as well as the State's problems, customs and interests of that time, are brought to living reality in the time-worn pages of the old Florida Peninsular published in 1860-61, and apparently the only newspaper printed in Hillsborough County during those vital years.

There are 34 aged and ragged copies of this venerable sheet in the Tampa public library, so carefully treasured that they are preserved in a fire-proof safe. They chronicle Florida's reactions in the exciting and momentous events of the epochal era prefacing the Civil War, which has so lightly been touched upon in the State's history.

Slave auctions, lynchings, duels, feuds, capture of slave ships, Lincoln's campaign, threats of secession, preparations for war and the beginning of hostilities that preceded the war, plus the contemporary social, commercial and civic life of the community are vividly pictured in these panoramic pages.

It has been said that newspapers are the most complete and accurate sources of history, besides reflecting the very heart and life and feeling of the people of their time, and so it is that these musty copies of the Peninsular form a unique document of a portentous time, besides representing an early type of Southern journalism.

The Peninsular was a Democratic weekly of four pages, six columns to the page, set in brevier Roman old-style type. This grandiloquent



motto streamed across its front page beneath the title line: "Virtue, Economy and Intelligence are the True Elements of National Greatness." Printed on a fairly good quality of newsprint paper, doubtless on an old-time Washington hand press, the print is clear and readable where the paper has not been gnawed by rats or roaches.

The file begins with Volume 6, Number 44, dated January 7, 1860, and (with several numbers missing) runs to March 16, 1861. William J. Spencer was the publisher. The editor, up to March 31, 1860, was Alfonse Delaunay, on which date the name of Simon Turman appears on the masthead as editor. The paper's location was given as "First door west of Mr. Dagenhart's residence." No street was mentioned.

This ante-bellum journal offers, in many ways, an odd and interesting contrast to newspapers of today. No headlines, even for the biggest news, were larger than 10-point type, single column, as compared to the flamboyant box-car letters screaming across front pages of modern papers.

And the news! There was no telegraph service in Tampa then, and outside news was usually several weeks old in the Peninsular, having been received perhaps by mail over such slow routes as stage coach, pony-express messenger, ox carts, or occasional ships. The Associated Press was in its infancy then, but small-town papers such as the Peninsular did not use its service.

Another oddity was that fully half the front page was given to advertising, the rest of this page to poems, stories, jokes and household recipes. News appeared on inside pages, and very little local news anywhere. Stories were generally of State, national or foreign happenings of weeks before, many of them reproduced bodily, with credit, ~~from~~

from other newspapers. There was also a notable absence of such now familiar features as sports, society, comics, illustrations, financial, labor and industrial news.

Nearly every issue carried a stilted love story and one or more poems, usually on Page 1. These followed the set pattern of the period, in which the pallid heroine was pursued by a polished villain who stole the pearls. The lady fainted at the slightest provocation, and cried "Unhand me, Sir!" when the villain attempted force. That gentleman, in turn, "hissed through his clenched teeth" or "muttered hoarsely," "Curses, I am foiled! But she shall not escape me!" as he twirled his black mustache and laughed harshly, "Heh, heh, heh!" Nevertheless, he remained foiled and in the end the fair maiden married the rich and impeccable Lord of the Manor and went to live happily in the old castle.

Poems, on the other hand, wailed mournfully of unrequited love, death and the grave.

The paper was well edited, considering that both "Ye Ed." and the publisher were three-job men. The first editor, Delaunay, was also Tampa's postmaster and a town councilman, while his successor, Simon Turman, was judge of the probate court and a practicing lawyer. Spencer, the publisher, was sheriff of Hillsborough County and a deputy U. S. marshall. Editorials were written in the highly pedantic style of the times, interspersed with many Latin phrases and quotations from the classics to show the writer's wide range of learning.

Advertising columns, taking up nearly two-thirds of the paper, were the real human interest department, showing the customs, needs, ^{styles} and

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habits of the period. State lotteries, legalized by the Georgia legislature and apparently legal for patronage everywhere, were the largest advertisers, with headquarters in various Georgia cities. These ads, kept standing on yearly contract, offered capital prizes up to \$375,000, and boasted "more prizes than blanks."

Also there were numerous ads of slaves for sale and rewards for runaways. Doctors, too, advertised liberally in those days. Tampa merchants kept their ads standing permanently, with little or no change from year to year. They featured such items as hoop skirts, mens' fancy colored silk vests, Negroes, red flannel underwear, codfish, whiskey and pistols. Each store handled everything from prunes to plows, and from ladies' bonnets to ship chandlery.

Nearly all commercial ads bore at the bottom the mystic symbol "tf" that gladdened the hearts of all old-time newspaper publishers. It indicated that the ad was to be kept standing "'till forbid," which usually meant permanently.

The fact that the Peninsular's owner was the high sheriff and its editor the probate judge may not have had anything to do with this coincidence, but the paper carried an exceedingly large number of legal notices at all times, which ran from four to six months each. Even "Bill of Divorce" notices had to run four months.

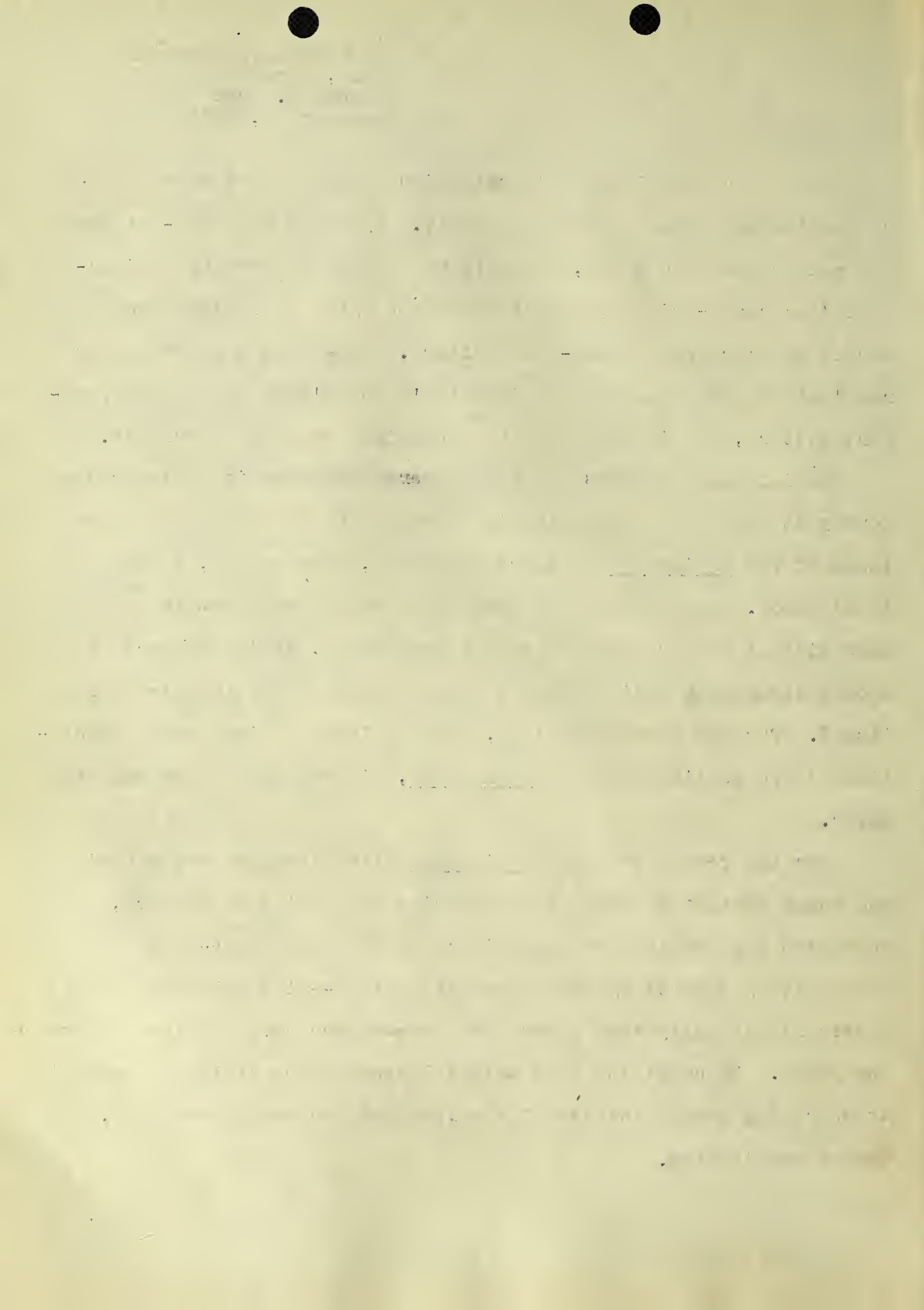
Composition of ads showed a range of plain and fancy type faces, up to a maximum of 48-point in size, indicating a stock of about 50 fonts. The Peninsular also maintained a job printing shop.

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The paper contained no illustrations except a few stock woodcuts which were used in advertisements. Type was all hand-set and all matter was home print, as this was before the era of "boiler-plate" or ready-print "insides" that came later to lighten the burden of overworked small-town editors. Sometimes the compositor ran "out of sorts" and had to invert w's for m's or use a few wrong-font letters, but in the main the mechanical work was excellent.

Belief that this was the only paper published in Hillsborough County at that particular time is supported by the fact that in no issue of the Peninsular is there reference, good or bad, to any other local paper. Rival papers of those days hardly ever let an issue pass without bitter vituperation of each other, so the absence of such pleasantries indicates this paper must have had the field to itself. Further supporting this, various local bodies passed resolutions to be published in the Peninsular, without mention of any other paper.

For the reason that the Peninsular file presents such a vivid and human picture of Florida life during the period of slavery, secession and hostilities preliminary to the Civil War--a period inadequately covered by text books of history--it supplies material richer historically than other local newspapers covering less interesting years. In compiling this material researchers "followed copy" in transcribing eccentricities of spelling and the use of capitals, quotes and italics.



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First existing issue of the Peninsular is dated January 7, 1860. Three columns of the front page are devoted to advertising, the other three to a stirring article dealing with slavery and secession, copied from the Tallahassee Floridian of December 4 (nearly a month old), consisting of a "Report on Federal Relations" rendered by the Florida House of Representatives. The report is mostly a defense of slavery and advocates right of the South to secede from the Union, declaring "any State has a right to establish and maintain within its own limits the institution of African Slavery. . . . That this right is recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States in the 1st article, 2nd section, providing for the enumeration and representation of the people, and in the 4th article, 2nd section, providing for the return of any slave escaping from one State and found within the jurisdiction of another . . . and that the Supreme Court of the United States, the highest source of judicial power, has declared the laws of Congress in relation to African Slavery to be constitutional."

Several editorials in this issue denounce northern Abolitionists and urge secession of southern states.

OFFICIAL "WHO'S WHO:" The following list of city, county and state officials appearing in this issue includes names that were then and still are prominent in Florida's history:

STATE OF FLORIDA: Governor, Madison L. Perry.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY: Judge of Probate Court, Simon Turman; Clerk of Circuit Court, J. M. Haymon; Sheriff, William S. Spencer; Coroner, George W. Edwards; Surveyor, John Jackson; Commissioners: John Darling, James P. McMullen, L. G. Covacevich, Joseph Mizell.

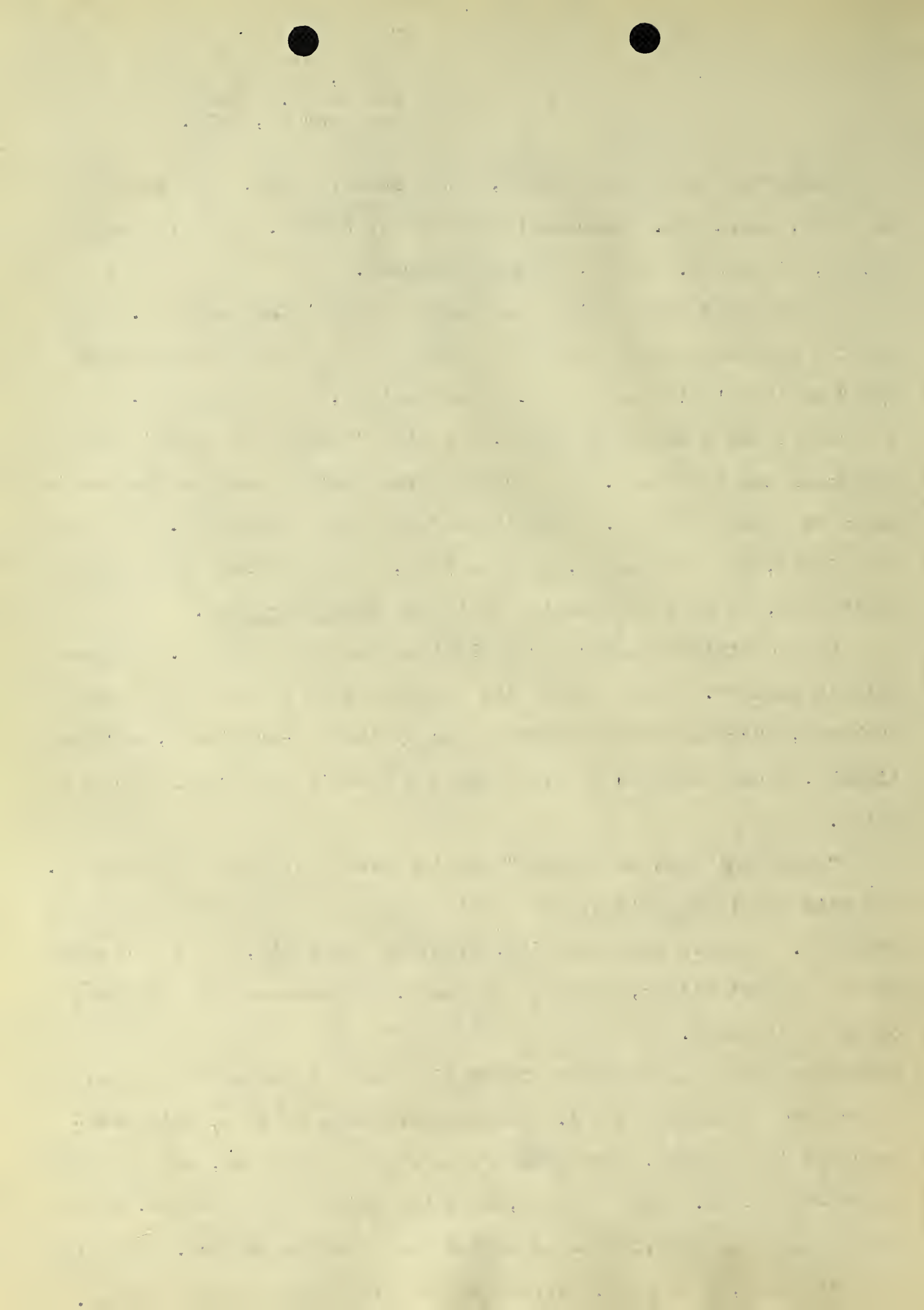
TAMPA CITY OFFICERS: Mayor, James McKay; Clerk, John Darling; Marshall, Michael L. Shannahan; Councilmen: John T. Givens, James Gettis, William G. Ferris, Alfonse Delaunay.

Mayor McKay was a ship owner and agent for other vessels. He was the founder of what is now the large and internationally known Lykes Brothers' Steamship Line. John Darling, the city clerk, was a merchant and a prominent Mason, and also "doubled in brass" as a member of the town band. The present John Darling Lodge of Masons in Tampa was named for him. Councilman Ferris was a merchant. Gettis and Givens, of the Council, were lawyers, and Councilman Delaunay was postmaster, as well as sometime editor of the Peninsular.

United States senators from Florida then were David L. ^{Yulee}~~Ulee~~ and Malcolm Mallory. President of the United States in 1860 was James Buchanan, succeeded the following year by the war-President, Abraham Lincoln, whose election precipitated the South's withdrawal from the Union.

"NEGRO FOR SALE AT AUCTION" was the headline of an ad on page 2. The sale was to be held at the court house door on the 6th day of February. A Negro named William, about 35 years old, was to be sold to the highest bidder, by Ellen Stephens, administrator of the estate of James Stephens.

LOTTERIES BOLDLY ADVERTISED: Three different lotteries were prominently advertised on paged 3 and 4. The Georgia State Lottery, with headquarters in Savannah, announced drawings every Saturday, and a capital prize of \$60,000. More than 25,000 other prizes were offered, making an aggregate of \$366,000 to be handed out to lucky players. Tickets were \$10 each, with half, quarter and eighth tickets in proportion.



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Customers were urged to "get rich quick" by sending their money by mail or express, and promised the lists of winning numbers and the cash for prizes would be sent immediately after the drawings.

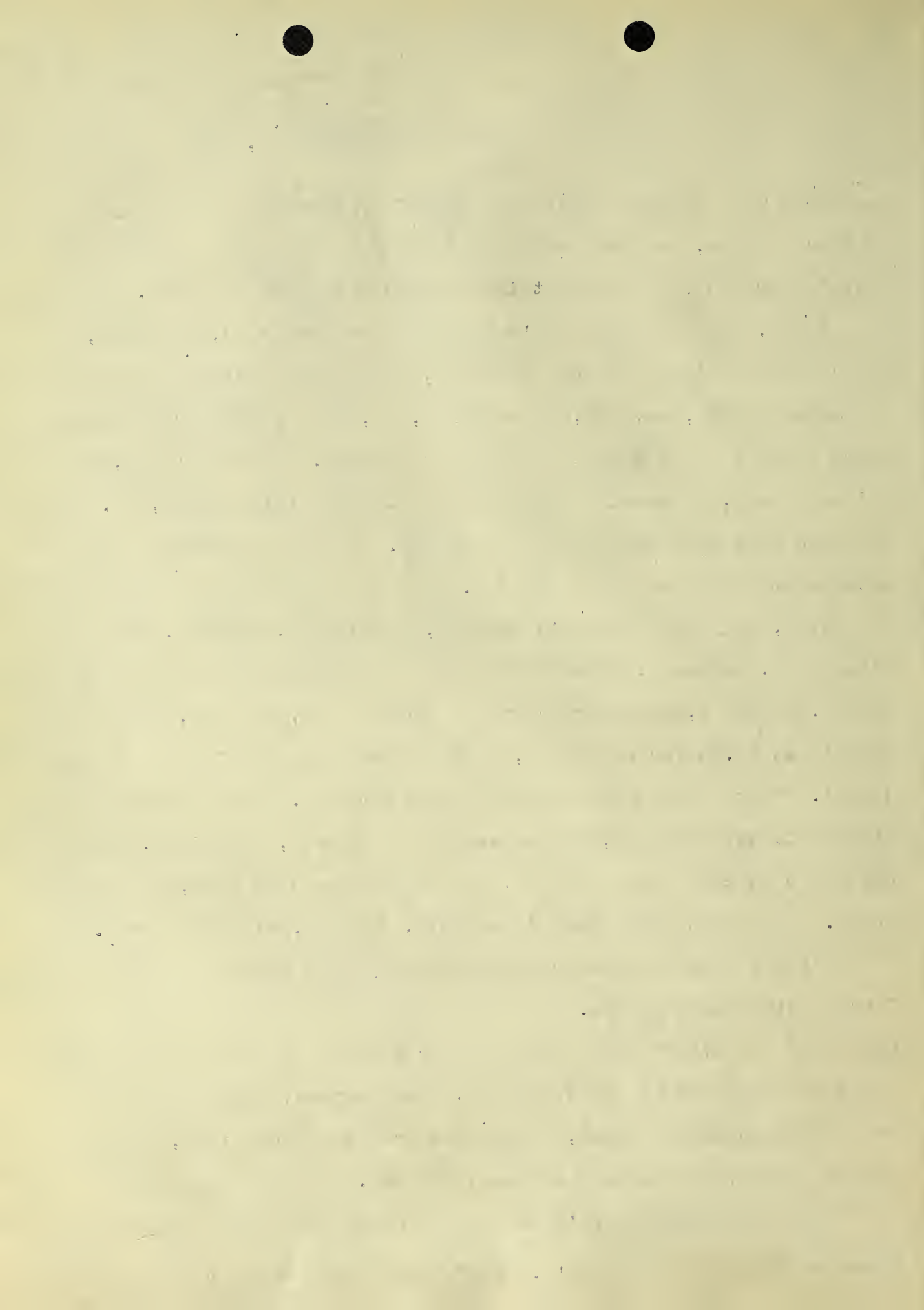
Hodge, Davis and Company's Consolidated Lotteries, of Macon, offered three different lottery plans, the capital prizes being respectively \$50,000, \$70,000 and \$100,000, with tickets ranging in price from \$1 for an eighth to \$10 for a whole. There were 26,000 prizes in all, in amounts from \$5 upward, and totaling \$271,000. Drawings were held in Macon every Monday. Circulars giving full details would be mailed on request.

Wood, Eddy and Company's Lottery, of Augusta, Atlanta, and Wilmington, Delaware, offered the tempting bait of a capital prize of \$50,000 and 5,000 other prizes of \$100 to \$20,000 each, with tickets at \$2.50 for an eighth, \$5 for a half and \$10 for a full ticket. "More prizes than blanks" were promised. This company claimed to sell only 50,000 tickets and to give 5,485 prizes, nearly one prize to every nine tickets, and an aggregate of \$320,000 in prize money. Drawings took place in Augusta, Georgia, every Saturday.

All the lotteries advertised that they were chartered by the Georgia state legislature.

MERCHANTS HAD EVERYTHING: Nearly three pages of advertising in this issue included ads of three doctors, four lawyers, eight or ten general merchandise stores, a combined drug and book store, three hotels and several columns of legal notices.

The modern drug store's variety of goods was easily outdone by Tampa merchants of the 1860's. As "general merchandise" dealers they



handled slaves, groceries, hardware, millinery, live stock, ladies' garments, tinware, liquors, ship anchors, patent medicines, lumber, guns, feed, woodenware, paints, hides, tallow, cotton, and, as their ads usually concluded "etc., etc."

Among merchants advertising were those whose names have been conspicuous in Hillsborough County's affairs until the present day:

Kennedy and Darling's ad (no street address given) included hoop skirts, boots and shoes, powder and shot, codfish, "segars," candies, grindstones, mens' cravats, buckskins, pantaloons, whiskey and fancy-colored silk and velvet vests for men.

E. A. Clarke & Company had all the foregoing, and added: Kentucky jeans, cassimers, white and colored "cambricks," alpacas, merinos, and misses' and ladies' "flats," the latter being presumably some kind of headgear.

Michael Wall, Tampa Street, (a forefather of the present firm of Knight & Wall), offered similar lines to those mentioned, and featured ladies' steel hoops, hoop skirts, pickles, cheese, sperm oil and snuff.

C. L. Frieble announced "cash or barter" terms for a tempting array of new goods just received by the schooner Spencer, from New York. His offerings ran the full gamut of general merchandise, besides the customary "other items too numerous to mention." He did especially mention a full line of Dr. Jayne's Family Medicines and "800 free copies of Dr. Jayne's Almanac to be distributed gratis." (This almanac was a household treasure in those days, as it contained the year's calendar, gave changes of the moon, and predicted the weather for each day of the year with more or less inaccuracy,

besides confessing to the sterling quality of the good doctor's every medicines, guaranteed to cure/ailment from a cold to a cancer. On the front cover was a startling picture of a man with his insides exposed, wreathed with the signs of the zodiac.

Madison Post advertised the usual comprehensive range of goods, and offered to pay highest prices for deer hides, tallow, furs, beeswax and cotton.

White, Cline and Brown, corner Marion and Washington Streets; D. Hughes and Son, of Ichepucksassa; W. G. Ferris and Son, Washington and Monroe Streets, were among other merchant advertisers.

WHISKEY WAS CHEAP.- Among prices of commodities advertised, whiskey was 35 cents a gallon; pilot bream 6½ cents a pound; coffee, per pound, 12 cents; ham 15 cents and bacon 12 cents a pound; flour, \$5.50 a barrel. Ten cents a pound was paid for deer hides.

The only steamship service advertised were the New Orleans, Key West and Havana mail vessels, Galveston and Matagorda, 1,000 tons each, calling at all intermediate points on the Gulf of Mexico. One or the other of these ships was scheduled to touch at Tampa about twice a month. James McKay was the agent.

RAILROAD FAR DISTANT.- This standing advertisement of the Florida Railroad (the State's pioneer rail line), which ran from Fernandina to Starke, indicates Tampa's isolation and the difficulties of travel at that time:

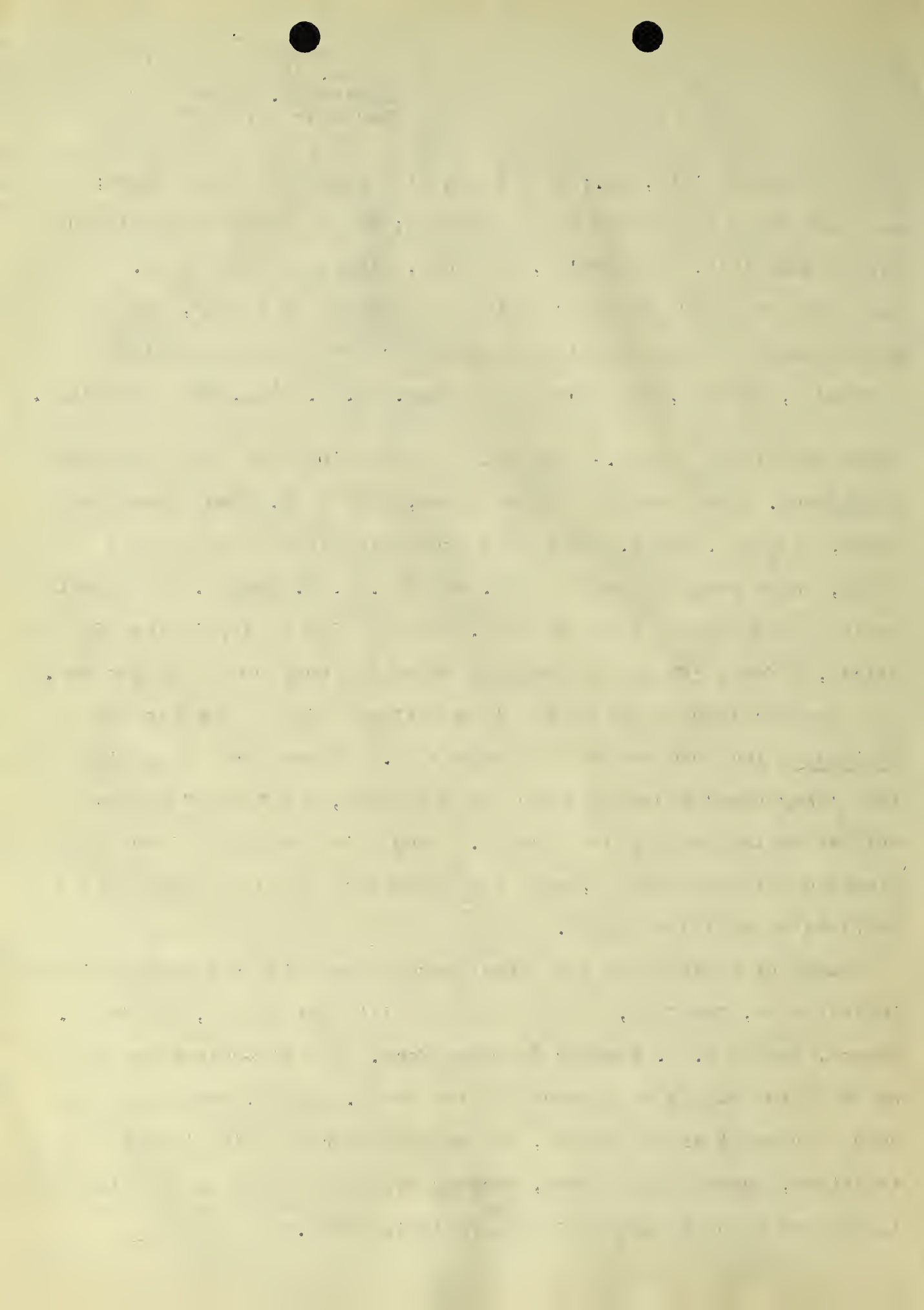
"Trains leave Fernandina daily except Sunday and make the following schedule: Connecting at Callahan with stages for Fraden

Hill and Centerville, Ga.; at Baldwin with stage for Tallahassee; at Trail Ridge with stage for Middleburg; and at Starke with stages for Newnansville, Gainesville, Micanopy, Flemington and Ocala. Leave Starke daily (Sunday excepted) on arrival of stages, and connecting at Fernandina with steamers for Savannah and Charleston on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. A. H. COLE, Superintendent.

BOARD FOR MAN AND BEAST.- The hotels then maintained boarding stables for horses. They were the Palmer House, kept by R. Duke; Washington House, with Mrs. Ann M. Robarts as proprietress; and the Florida House, under proprietorship of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Thomas. No street location was given for any of them. The Florida House, in its list of prices, offered "Meals and lodgings 50 cents each; horses \$1 per day."

Another interesting number in a tattered file of the Florida Peninsular for 1860 is that of January 14. It was about this time that "damyankee" became one word in the South, and "rebel" was the epithet hurled back by northerners. Hoop skirts on both sides flounced with indignation, and sidewhiskers up there and down here quivered in political wrath.

Most of Pages 1 and 2 of this issue burned with a speech delivered in Rochester, New York, by the hated abolitionist leader, William H. Seward, then a U. S. Senator from New York. The six-column address was a bitter attack on slavery and the South. Oddly, the Tampa editor made no comment on the screed, and evidently printed it without deletions, scathing as it was, perhaps meanwhile thinking up blistering terms with which to scotch it the following week.



FORT BROOKE LANDS OFFERED.- This significant item indicated the possible abandonment of Fort Brooke, Tampa's military garrison during the Seminole Indian wars: "By order of the State Internal Improvement Fund trustees, the swamp and overflowed lands of the Fort Brooke reservation are to be thrown open to private entry at the price of \$1 per acre."

A news paragraph two weeks old from New Orleans told of a battle near Brownsville, Texas, between United States and Mexican troops, the Americans being victorious.

SOBS AND TITTERS.- January 21, 1860 issue. Features of the front page of this issue were a tearful poem of lost love entitled "The Forsaken Maiden," half a dozen rather ponderous jokes, and excerpts from a speech delivered in Washington some weeks before by Vice President John C. Breckenridge, showing a half-way leaning toward the southern side of the slavery controversy, as did some of President Buchanan's expressions at that time.

Also on Page 1 was an item indicating that the Methodist church was pretty well organized in Tampa in those days: "A list of ministerial appointments made at the annual meeting of the Florida Methodist Church Conference names these ministers appointed in Hillsborough County: W.L. Murphy, presiding elder; Tampa, O. A. Myers, Hillsborough County Circuit, W. C. Jourdan."

SLAVE IS HANGED.- The editor casually called a reporter for a Tallahassee paper "a liar," in those words, and deplored the fact that a Tampa slave named Adam, "valued at \$1,500", had to be hanged for murder the previous week. There was no account of the murder itself.

FLOGGING AND LYNCHING.- Even at that early day flogging and lynching parties were an outdoor activity of some Tampan. On Page 2 of this issue the editor recounts that a series of robberies had taken place, that "the town had been infested with gamblers, black-legs, thieves and cutthroats." He continued:

"Vice was triumphant, riotous villainy was rampant--aye, stalked forth boldly in broad day. Quiet and peaceable citizens were forced to arm themselves to the teeth . . . Then the first law of nature was resumed, the ordinary forces being powerless.

"One morning a noted villain of the deepest die was found swinging to a pine by the neck. A few were whipped, others received orders to leave. . . We can now say, with pride and satisfaction, that there is not a town or county in the whole South that can boast of a more peaceable, sober and law-abiding people than the City of Tampa and the County of Hillsborough."

No mention was made as to the identity of the mobsters or the victims.

FANNING THE FLAMES.- In this issue the mounting and predominant note was the growing hostility between North and South over the slavery question, and agitation by southern leaders for secession. This feeling was portrayed by the following vigorous lines from a poem on Page 1 by George F. Ward, copied from the Florida Sentinel:

"Hated and scorned--belied and foully wronged,
And now 'invaded' by a cruel rabble
Of dissolute profligates, the tools and minions
Foul of a purpose fearful, foul and loathesome,
And scum-like of the abhorrent mass
Of their own foetid 'First Society.
Men of the South! Your would-be masters North
Would force upon you a new code of morals,

A 'higher-law Philosophy,' a free
Love feast for dame and damosel--where Swards,
Greeleys, Douglasses, may interchangeably
With mongrel ideas stock the South!"

As in all issues of the Peninsular, there were few items of local doings or personal mention. Little if anything was said during the year of the town's industries, occupations or progress.

CHURCH LADIES "RESOLVE".- Less beligerant was the note sounded in this odd communication:

"At a meeting of the Ladies of Tampa on the 23rd instant, the following Resolutions were passed:

Resolved, that the ladies should have due regard for each other; therefore when they go to church or any meeting they should take the seat next the wall, and so on until the seat is filled.

Resolved, that if any lady takes the seat next the aisle, before the seat is filled, that she should be left in peaceable possession thereof.

Resolved, that these Resolutions be published in the Tampa Peninsular as soon as possible if not sooner.

Mrs. M.J. Harris, Pres. "

Miss F. A. Wilson, Sec'y.

The death is recorded of Michael Wall, one of the forefathers of a family that has long been prominent in Tampa: "Aged 43, he was a native of New York. Coming to Florida in 1836, he was a volunteer in Captain William Fisher's Company stationed at Fort Brooke, and had been a permanent resident of Tampa since 1848."

OLD NAMES JOINED.- "Dr. Franklin Branch, of Tampa, and Miss Martha A. Turnbull, of Monticello, were married on January 16." (Thus were two old Florida names merged and a long line of Tampans founded).

The city treasurer, E. A. Clarke, filed his annual account, showing the year's disbursements of \$2,135 and a balance of \$273 in the treasury.

In an advertisement of his saw and grist mill located at Newport, Florida, Isaac Dimond flings some plain home-spun talk at his public in these sentences: "We turn out cheaper work than can be bought abroad, but still you aint willing to realize that fact. But pay me you must--I can't run after it."

MUSIC HATH CHARMS.- February 11, 1860. News was evidently scarce this week, as the front page feature was a three-column article on the charms of music, by J. A. Butterfield, local music teacher. This was a long and verbose essay on music, touching every phase of the art from its birth to its final triumph (as implied) in the author's own renditions. One wonders how it made Page 1 unless as a soporific for those troubled times, for dissolution of the Union loomed more darkly, and Page 2 growled ominously in editorials and political articles showing increasing truculence in both North and South.

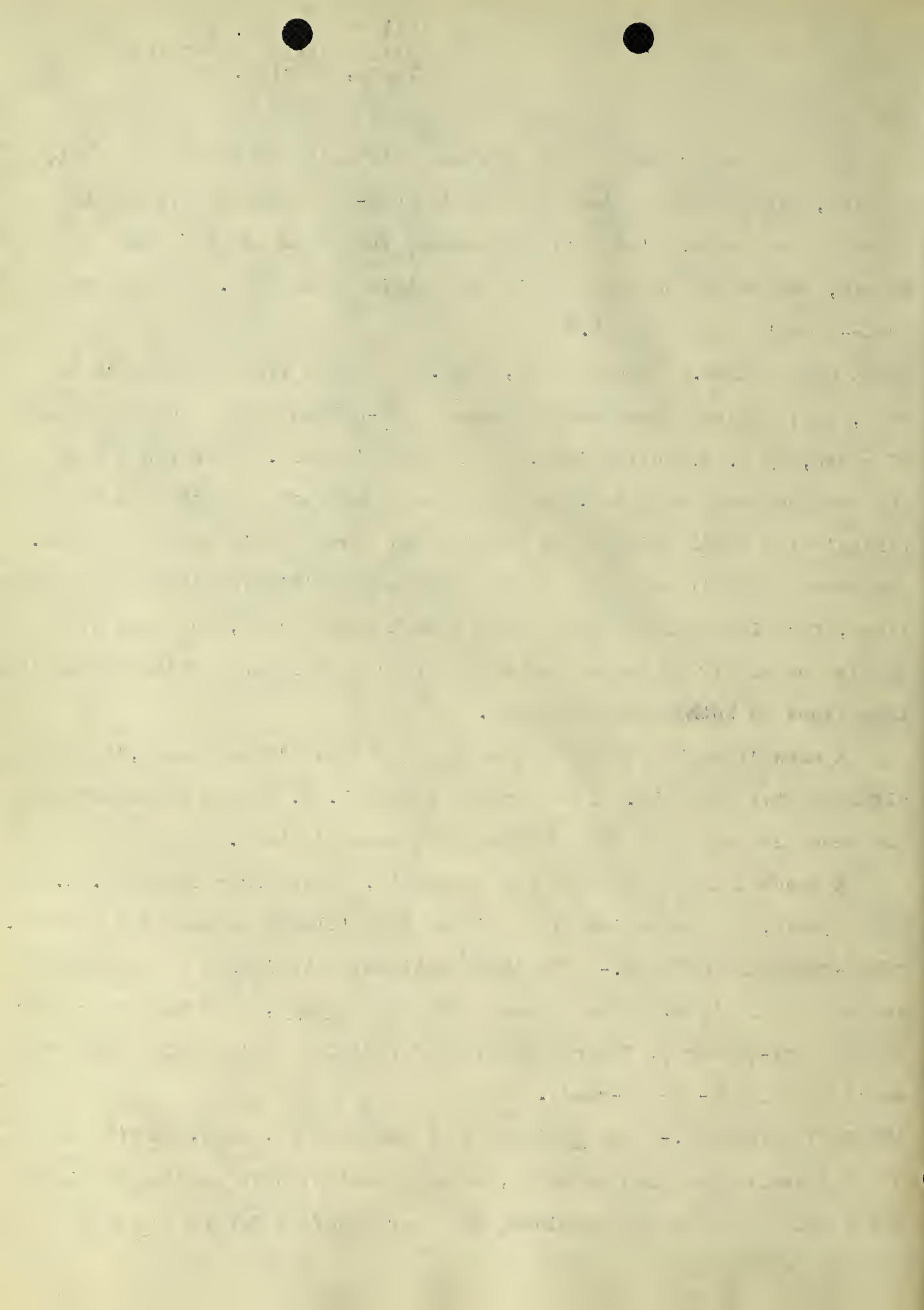
A news "flash" from Washington was captioned "Telegraphic," although five days old. It announced that Col. W. Forney of Philadelphia, had been elected clerk of the House of Representatives.

A concert to be given at the Town Hall, under direction of J. A. Butterworth, was advertised to begin at "7½ o'clock" on Saturday evening.

THREE-CORNERED POLITICS.- The three National political parties most active at this time, as mentioned in the Peninsular, were the Democratic (mostly pro-slavery), "Black Republican" (chiefly abolitionist) and the American (middle-of-the-road).

PENSIONS ADVOCATED.- The Peninsular of February 25, 1860, carries an ad of a Washington pension agent, showing that even before the Civil War there was agitation for pensions and other benefits for veterans of

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previous wars. The ad invites correspondence from "all soldiers, sailors and teamsters (or their widows or orphans) who served in any wars or battles either in California or elsewhere prior to 1855, or sailors who served on the coast of California during the Mexican war." The agent offered to prosecute their claims against the Government for pensions, land bounties or other claims.

OMINOUS PREDICTION.- This issue gives front-page space to an article copied from the Apalachicola Times regarding Washington politics, abolition, secession and who might be the next president of the United States. It ends with this defiant forecast:

"The Government and its patronage may now be considered to be in the hands of the Philistines--the Republicans--and the next scene will be the election of Seward or Douglas to the Presidency. Are we prepared for such an emergency? Will our sister States unite with us and retire from the Union, or shall we, for the sake of the Union, submit to further humiliation? The Unionists and Conservatives of the North will have a fair chance to show their devotion to the Union and to the rights of the States, for, if a Republican President is elected, dissolution is inevitable--peaceably if possible--forcibly if necessary."

Among ship arrivals at Tampa that week were noted the U. S. mail ship Atlantic from Havana and Key West, the schooner Venice from New Orleans, and the steamer Pamlico from Charleston.

NEW EDITOR.- March 31, 1860. Issues between February 25 and this date are missing during which time Editor Delaunay's name disappeared from the masthead to be replaced by that of Simon Turman. There was no comment as to the shift in editors and no change apparent in the paper's policy.

BAND ORGANIZED.- "A brass band"(evidently the first in Tampa) "has just been organized, with the following members: J. A. Butterworth (leader), John Darling, R. B. Thomas, Josiah Ferris, jr., James McKay, jr., T. W. Givens, H. L. Crane and J. D. Haygood." There was also this news item:

"The Florida Railroad Company has leased 45,000 acres of land near Waldo and Trail Ridge to a Mr. Godwin of Virginia and associates, for turpentine purposes."

Announcement was made of the establishment of a postoffice at Fort Meade (then in Hillsborough County) with Louis Lanier as postmaster.

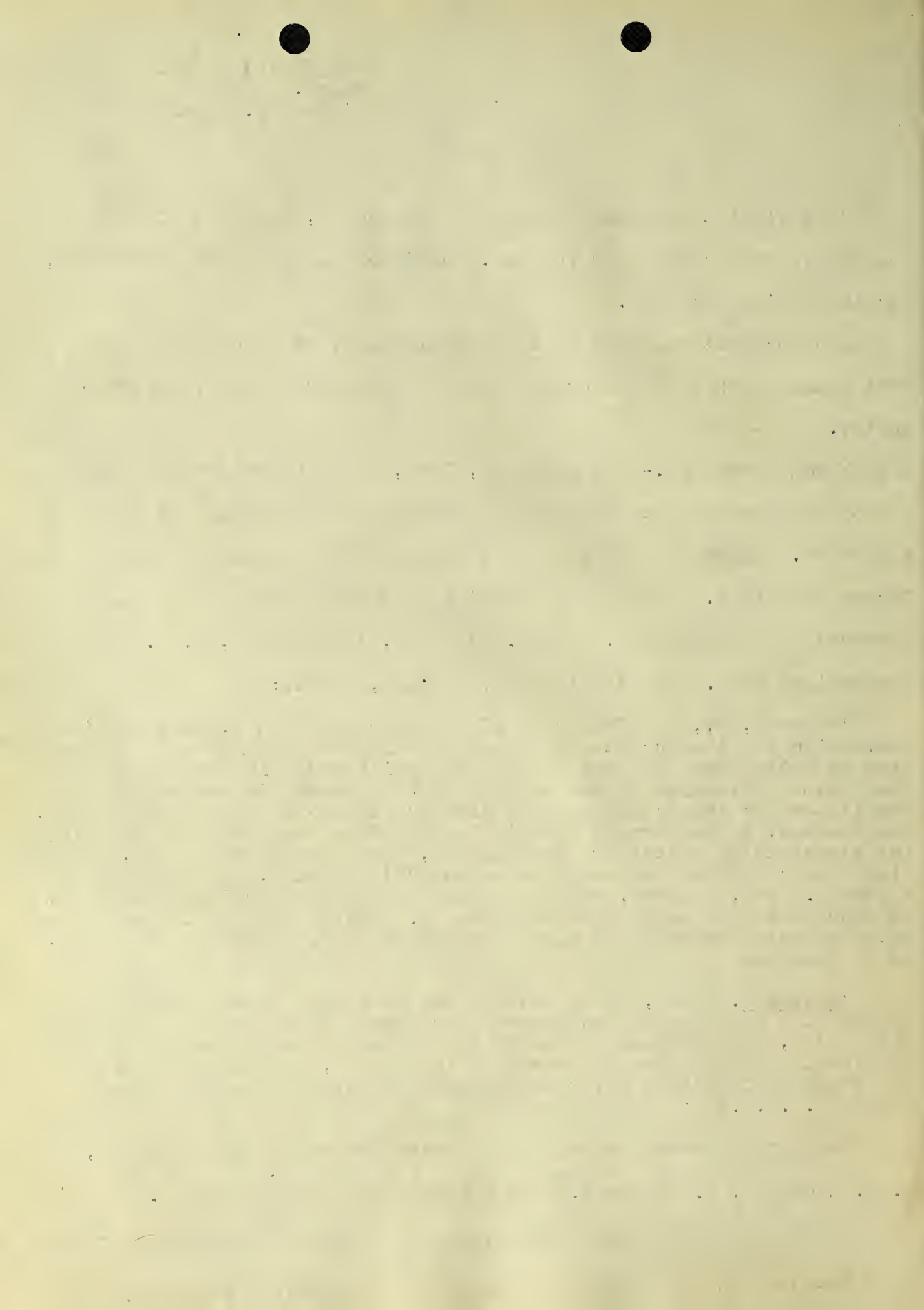
COUNTY FOR SECESSION.- On March 24, 1860, the Democrats of Hillsborough County convened at the court house and adopted resolutions in favor of secession. Captain James McKay was chosen as president and Judge Simon Turman secretary. A committee appointed to draft resolutions was composed of James Gettis, John P. Crichton, James McKay, J. D. Haygood and Madison Post. The resolutions, in part, follow:

"Whereas, We, the Democracy of Hillsborough County, have met in convention for the purpose of selecting Delegates to the State Convention at Tallahassee for the purpose of nominating Delegates to the Charleston convention whose duty it shall be to aid in nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States, and whereas, a platform of principles affirming and defending the rights the slaveholding States are entitled to, under the Constitution, are of vital importance to our security as sovereign States, and happiness as a People. And, whereas, we believe the squatter sovereignty doctrine, as enunciated and maintained by Steven A. Douglas will in the end be as fatal to our liberties and happiness as the Black Republican doctrine, be it therefore

"Resolved. That, as we believe the doctrines of the Black Republicans are intended to destroy our institutions and subject us to their will, the election of one of their number would be an open declaration of war upon the slaveholding States, and should be met by the South by immediate severance of those ties that bind the States together. . . ."

Delegates elected to the State convention were: Louis Lanier, E. N. Lockhart, A. Delaunay, Joseph Howell and William Cooley.

A column in this issue was devoted to a naval engagement near Vera Cruz between two United States vessels and two Mexican steamers, the



latter commanded by General Merimon. The Americans captured the two Mexican ships, with casualties of three men wounded. Three Mexicans were killed and 30 wounded.

NEGRO-AND-CATTLE SALE.- An advertisement read: "I have levied upon and will offer for sale in front of the Court House door in Tampa, on the first Monday of May next, the following property:

One negro woman named Charlotte and 23 head of Cattle. . . levied upon as the property of Isaac J. Carter, to satisfy an execution in favor of Richard Gay. Terms cash, in specie.

E. E. BLACKBURN, United States Marshall.

By W. S. Spencer, Deputy."

GOOD MATERIAL.- An ad by the Atlanta Medical College, in its list of advantages and attractions includes this one: "The Dissecting Room, furnished with good material, will be open by the 15th of April."

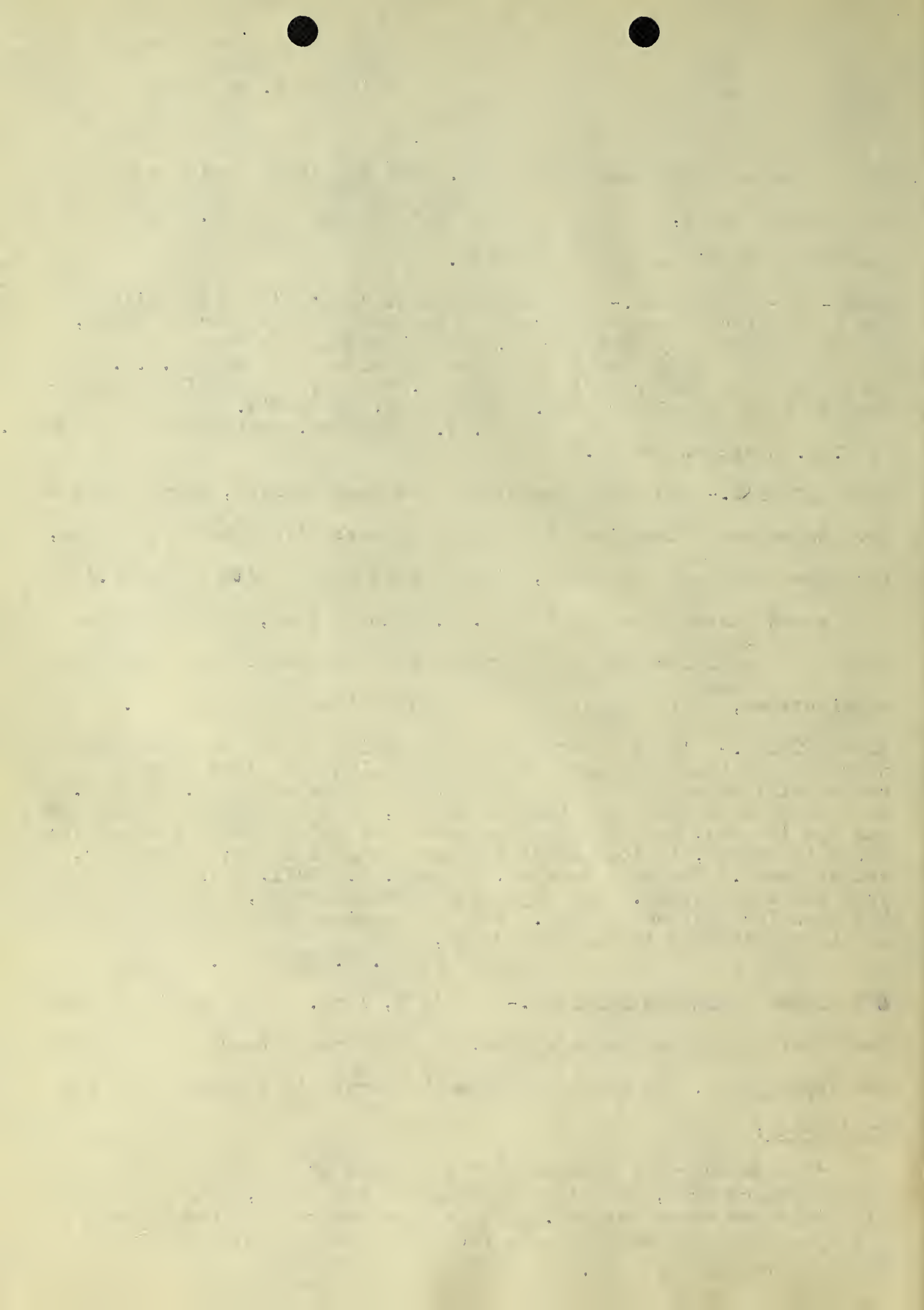
A new Tampa ad was that of H. A. Crane & Sons, announcing the opening of a gallery where they would take pictures, "Ambrotypes and Melainotypes, in the latest and most perfect style of the art."

SLAVE STOLEN.- "\$300 Reward" was the caption of the following ad which did no beating around the bush by alleging: "The above reward will be paid for the apprehension of one Samuel E. Edwards. Said Edwards is about six feet in height, 40 years old; the sight of one eye is gone, having a white appearance; weight about 175 pounds; loves to gamble, to loaf about a grocery and talk big; sandy hair, rather heavy. The said Edwards, alias A. E. Shell, stole a negro from the undersigned. The negro has been recovered, but the thief has thus far baffled pursuit. All information regarding the thief should be directed to the subscriber,

A. M. McCollum."

EYEWITNESS DESCRIBES NAPOLEON.- April 7, 1860. This candid personal description of Napoleon Bonaparte, by the Paris correspondent of the New York Herald, was reprinted from the Herald in this issue of the Peninsular:

"The Emperor was dressed in the costume of a General of Division of the French army, with the exception of the boots, wearing silk stockings and pumps instead. One gets an entirely different idea of his appearance by seeing him on foot from the one obtained of him while driving or mounted.



"He has a long body, but short and 'stumpy' legs, so that in walking he has an awkward air, while in riding he is very graceful. He walks with his body bent slightly forward and his head inclined a little over his right shoulder, which combination of defects makes him look particularly ungraceful.

"His face wears the same sphinx-like, unreadable expression for which he has always been noted; his eyes, apparently half closed, are, nevertheless, actively employed in looking about him, and his head exhibits an immense development of what phrenologists call the 'perceptive faculties.' In conversation with those about him he wore a smile which was really amiable, and, take him altogether, I must confess that a near view of him put me into the condition which an Irishman would describe as 'bothered entirely.'

"I stood and watched him for more than an hour as he moved slowly and awkwardly between the dancers about the square in which the imperial party were fenced off from the crowd, trying to convince myself that this little dumpy, half-asleep looking man was the one, who, after years of wandering and war, had placed himself at the head of this great nation--the man who had quieted discontent and made himself the most popular sovereign France ever had."

EARLY CIGAR FACTORY.- Cigars were made in Tampa as early as 1860, as disclosed by this editorial blurb in the Peninsular:

"We are indebted to John P. Andrew for a lot of fine Cigars, of his own manufacture. Mr. A. is now making up Florida tobacco and is prepared to accommodate those wishing anything in his line. Lovers of 'the weed' should give him a call, and, our word for it, they will be made to 'smoke' for their trouble."

EMERGENCY MARRIAGE.- How a local marriage was performed at the insistence of an anxious lady was thus related on Page 2:

"A circumstance apropos of leap-year transpired in this City one day this week. A widowed lady, having contracted a marriage engagement with a gentleman who could not conveniently come to town to procure a license, herself applied to our Clerk and herself secured the precious privilege.

"After accomplishing this much a difficulty arose which threatened to postpone the fruition of her hopes. The Magistrate whom she had selected to perform the interesting ceremony was dancing attendance as a witness in our Circuit Court. This fact was brought to the attention of an Attorney, who, upon being informed by the fair dame that she was extremely anxious to have the gordian knot speedily tied, and believing that it was a case of emergency, she having

'Poured out her love like the rush of a river,

'Wasting its waters forever and ever,'

volunteered to move the Court in her behalf! Accordingly he called

the attention of the Judge, before the opening of Court, to the facts of the case; his Honor, wishing to expedite business, heard arguments of Counsel and the statement of his fair client, but was relieved from the embarrassment consequent to a decision of the question, by the gallantry of an old batchelor Attorney, who (after surrendering his first point, i. e.; that the marriage could be legalized in the absence of the husband by proxy) agreed that the Magistrate might perform the ceremony provided he would appear in Court after consummation of his mission.

"The above recital is a practical illustration of the potency of perseverance in a good cause. The last we heard of the widow she was felicitating herself on the success of her efforts, and, with the Magistrate, making her way to the home of the expectant groom."

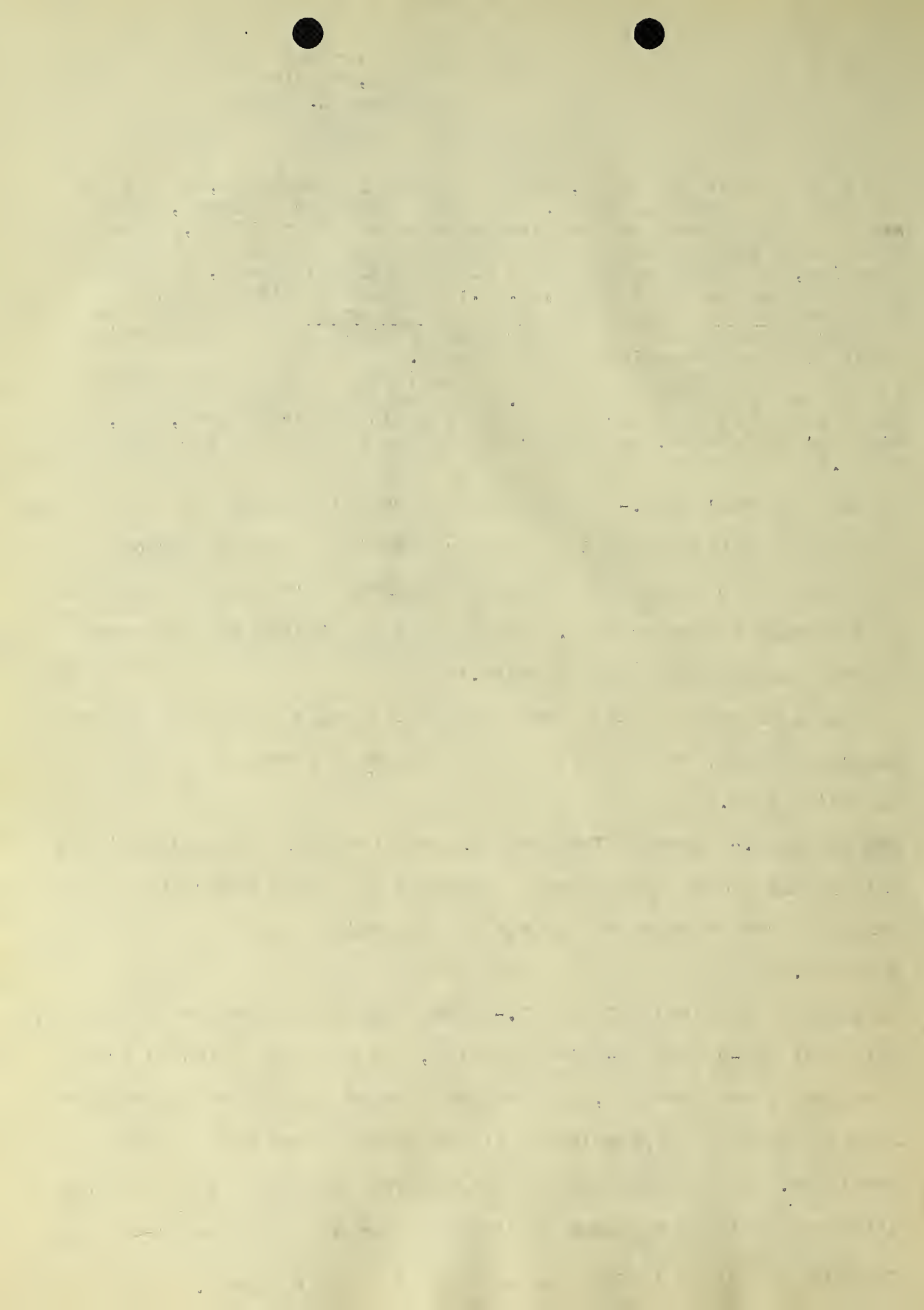
TO CROP THIEVES' EARS.- A news item on Page 2 recited that a bill was introduced in the Missouri legislature providing that "a person convicted of enticing away slaves or stealing horses shall have his ears cropped and be branded. On a second conviction for the same offense the penalty shall be death."

A legal notice stated that "Application will be made to the next General Assembly for the charter of a Plank Road from Brooksville to Spring Lake."

NEW RAILROAD?- Another "Notice" informed the public that "Application will be made to the next General Assembly for the Charter of a Railroad from Brooksville due east to the main trunk of the Florida Railroad."

IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT SOUGHT.- The leading news feature on Page 1, with a single-column 10-point headline, was a special message from President James Buchanan, replying to charges upon which Congressman John Covode of Pennsylvania and others sought impeachment of the President. Covode made general charges that the Chief Executive had attempted by improper means to influence the action of Congress with respect to certain legislation dealing with State rights. In his

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denial of the charges, the President announced that he feared no investigation, and said of the accusations:

"I have been abused in such exaggerated and indecent terms as could scarcely be applied to a Negro, to a notorious defaulter, or even to a common pickpocket."

"CONSTITUTION IN DANGER".- Then as now there were cries that the Constitution was being undermined, threatened and set at naught. In the Florida Peninsular of April 14, 1860, a political editorial anent the coming Presidential election declared: "Her creed (the South's) is but the embodiment of the Constitution. . . . It (the election) will be a fight between Northern conservatism and Black Republicanism, and if in such a fight, the true men of the North, under their own leaders, with the undivided South to back them, cannot save the Constitution from the Vandals that threaten it, what Southern man can be so infatuated, so lost to the ordinary instincts of self-preservation, as to cling to such a Union?"

SLAVE CARGO LANDED.- Among other items was this: "The Key West Key of the Gulf of the 24th ult. says that a full-rigged brig with all sails set and no one on board was quite recently found near Double-Head Shot Key by an English lighthouse schooner and taken into Nassau. A cargo of slaves had evidently been landed from the derelict a short time previously, and the vessel then turned adrift."

Another local item indicated plans for a railroad for Tampa:

"The engineers of the Florida Peninsular Railroad are now surveying the proposed route for the Road to this place."

(This effort came to naught, as Tampa did not get a railroad until 24 years later).

FORT BROOKE PASSING.- An editorial of April 14, 1860, indicated the prospective abandonment of Tampa's historical military post that

sheltered troops and refugees from Indians in the town's earliest days:

"We have before us several letters and official documents sent to our fellow-townsmen, Captain McKay, by Senator Mallory on the subject of the disposition of the Fort Brooke Reservation. The Secretary of War has ordered the sale of all movable property pertaining to the military post at Tampa, after which sale the site will be turned over to the Department of the Interior. Senator Mallory is satisfied that the Quartermaster General will recommend the sale or donation to the City of Tampa of the garrison lands. More of this anon."

RAILROAD CROSSES STATE.- The Peninsular of April 14, 1860, carries news of the first railroad across the State, lifted from the East Floridian of Fernandina, to-wit:

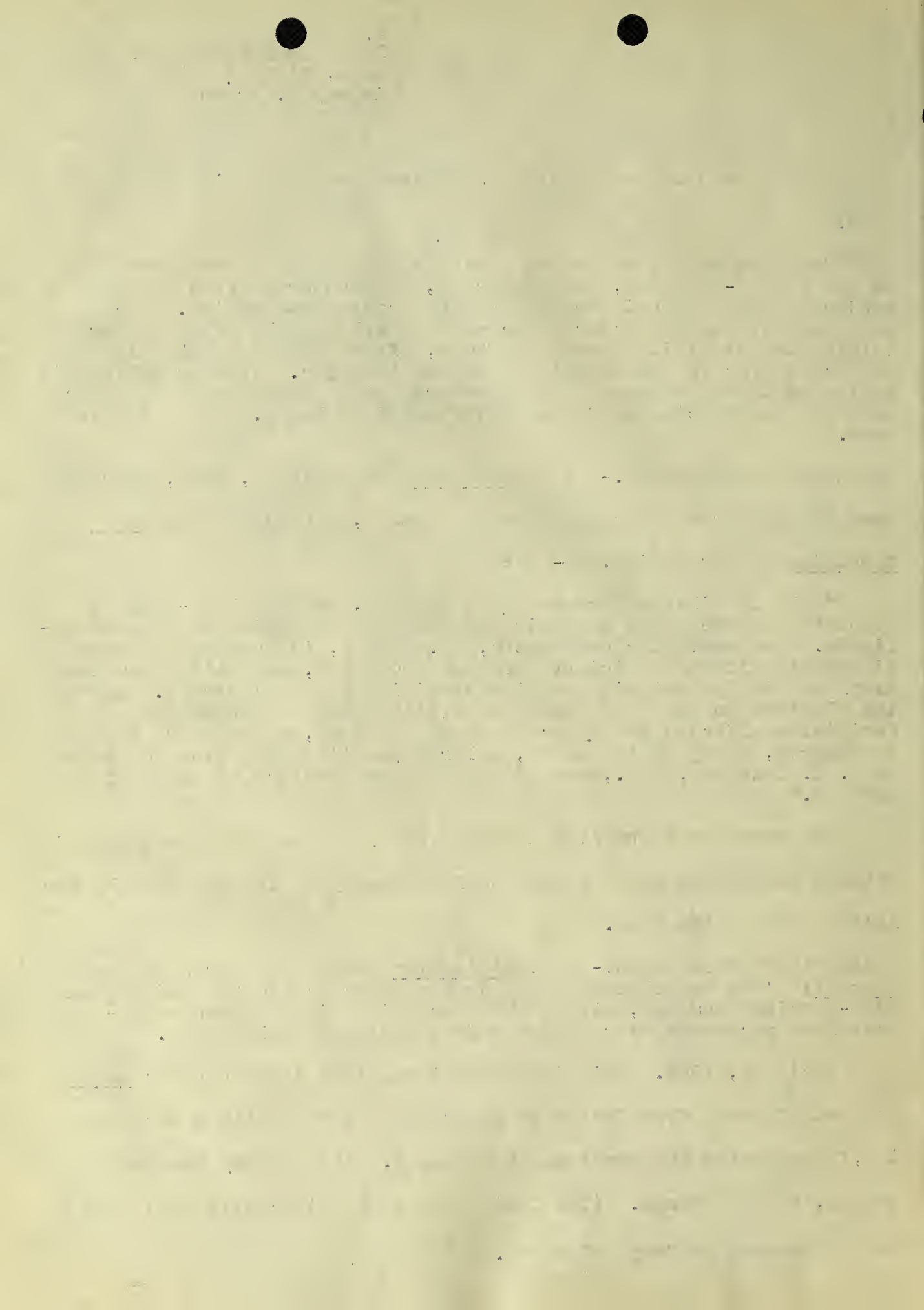
"Only 18 miles of track are to be laid, and the long-desired connection between the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico will be established. The energetic contractor, Mr. Phelan, is pushing the work vigorously with an efficient force of 100 hands, and will doubtless complete his task within the time specified in his contract. Already the planters on the Gulf Coast are availing themselves of the facilities afforded by the progress of the road, and we were grateful to observe, a day or two since, a large quantity of cotton forwarded by J. C. Chambers, Esq., one of the largest planters of the Gulf Hammock."

The same issue observed that a portion of the Cuba Telegraph line between Fernandina and Savannah would probably be in operation by the latter part of the week.

ANCESTOR OF AUTOMOBILES?- The Peninsular quoted this from the Boston Journal: "The Legislature of Maine has incorporated the Main Steam Road-Carriage Company, giving them exclusive right to use steam-propelled carriages over highways in the State for 12 years."

April 28, 1860. This issue mentioned that "The schooner Eldad arrived at Tampa from Boston on Saturday last week with a cargo of ice," and noted the marriage of Thomas J. Mitchell and Miss Sarah McLeod, both of Tampa. (The family names of this couple have long been prominent in Tampa affairs).

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SLAVE SHIP CAPTURED.- May 26, 1860. (Issues since April 28 missing).

"The bark William Cuptrend was captured off the Isle of Pines with 500 African slaves aboard. The U. S. war steamer Wyandotte, Lieut. Commander J. Stanley, made the capture. The crew were confined in the Key West jail, and the slaves were held there subject to Government action for their disposal." No other details of the incident were given.

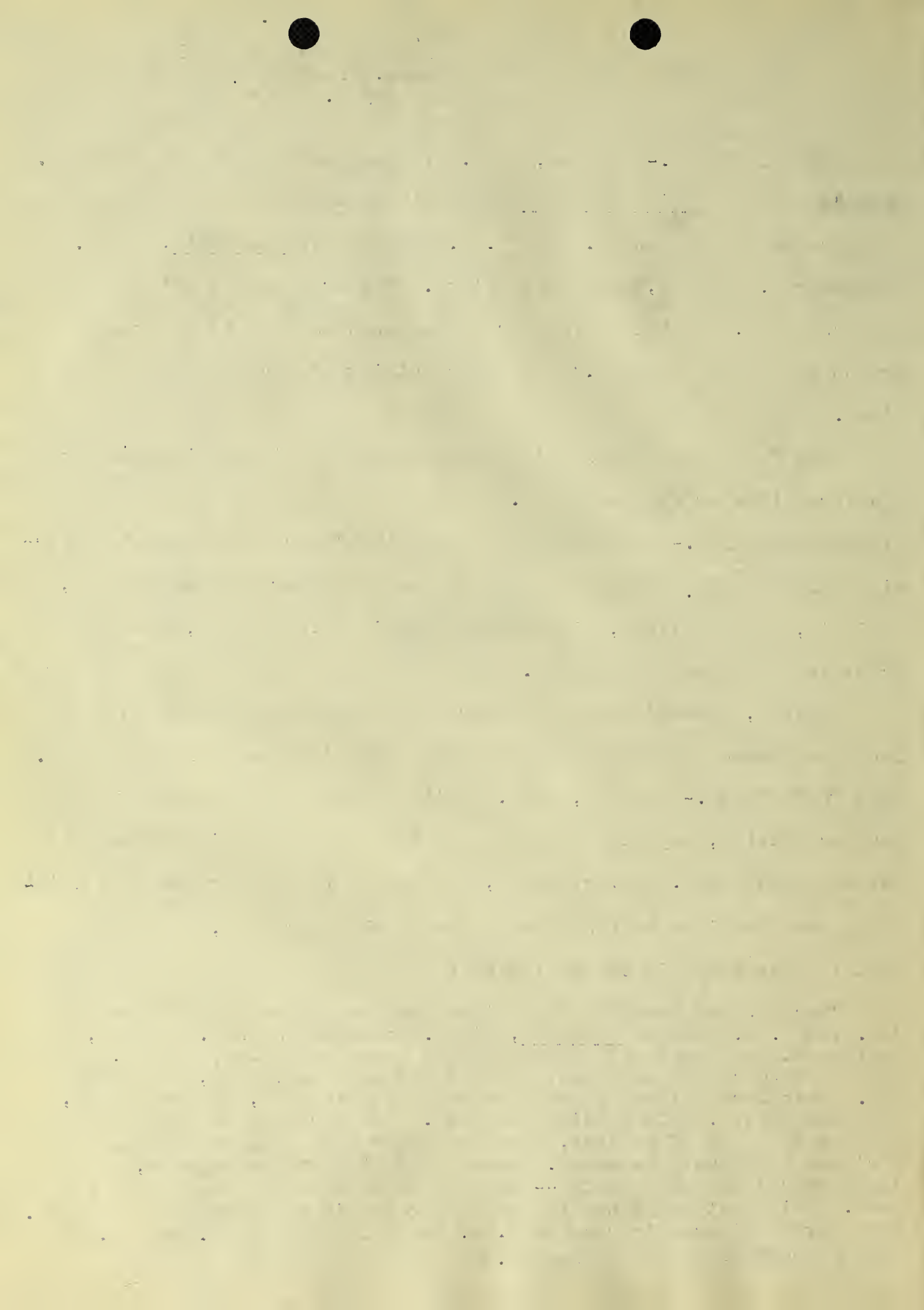
News from Jacksonville stated that city was lit up with gas for the first time on May 12 (1860).

LINCOLN NOMINATED.- Also noted was that the "Black Republican" convention held at Chicago beginning May 16 had nominated Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, for President, with Hannibal Hamilton, of Maine, for Vice President of the United States.

Slavery, secession and the increasing enmity between North and South continued to be the burden of the editorials and political news.

MORE BLACK CARGO.- June 2, 1860. While slavery was then lawful in Southern states, importation of slaves from Africa was illegal under United States laws. Nevertheless, cargoes of blacks were being continually smuggled into Gulf waters by daring slave traders, as instanced by this news story in the Peninsular:

"Our advices from Key West state that on the morning of the 26th ult. the U. S. Steamer Crusader, Lieut. Commander John N. Moffitt, arrived at that port with a French bark (name not given) in tow, having on board 420 Africans captured off Nuevitas, Cuba, on the 23rd ult. When first signaled she hoisted French colours, but sunk them, with her papers, before being captured. Her cargo is represented as being a fine set of fellows, being a larger race than any of the Africans previously captured. Seven only died on the passage, and the 420 captured are all healthy--the best of care having been taken of them. This last cargo swells the number now in Key West to about 1500. They were delivered in care of U. S. Marshall Fernando J. Moreno, of the Southern District of Florida."



The Peninsular thus recorded the alliance by marriage, with the editor's blessing, of two prominent families:

"MARRIED--At the residence of the Bride's father, the Honorable Perry G. Wall--in Hernando County, Florida, by the Rev. J. H. Breaker, on the evening of the 31st of May, 1860, Mr. Edward A. Clarke, of this City, to Miss Sallie L. Wall.

Our sincerest wishes for the prosperity and happiness of the wedded couple are theirs. Our "imp of darkness" suggests that Ed.'s
Will be a blissful lot
Whatever may befall--
His happiness will be secure,
Protected by a Wall."

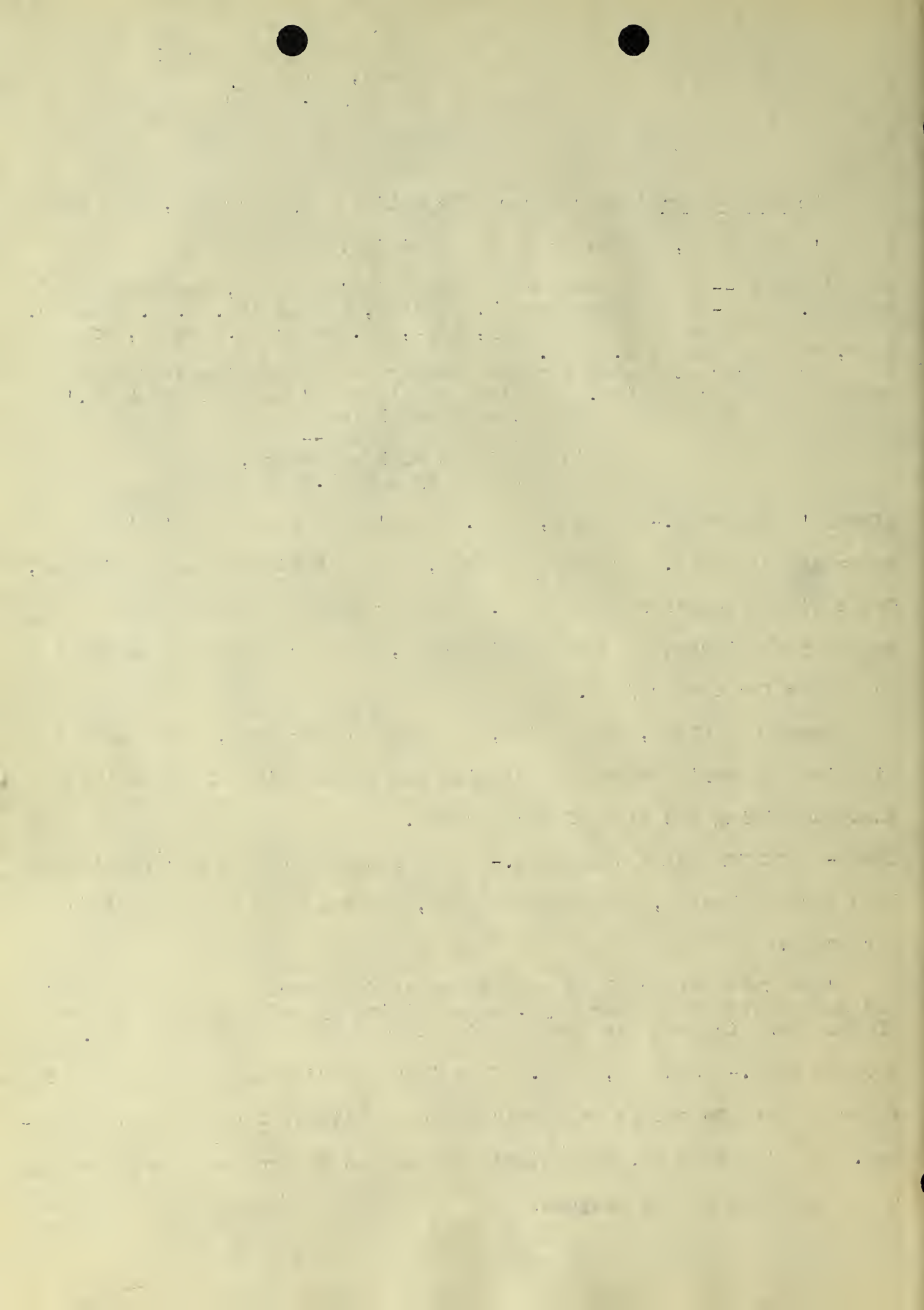
LINCOLN'S PLATFORM.- June 9, 1860. The "Black Republican" platform appeared on Page 1. Principal planks, on which Lincoln was nominated, dealt with opposition to slavery. Another notable plank favored building a railroad to the Pacific coast, and recommended government subsidies for the project.

Senator Mallory, of Florida, it was also recorded, introduced a bill in the Senate on May 15 granting the corporation of Tampa the land comprising the site of Fort Brooke.

CROSS-STATE TELEGRAPH COMPLETED.- Establishment of the first telegraph line across Florida, from east to west, was noted in this modest news paragraph:

"The Cuba Telegraph is now in successful operation from Fernandina and Jacksonville to Cedar Keys, thus uniting by telegraph the waters of the Atlantic from two points with those of the Gulf of Mexico."

SHOTGUN DUEL.- June 16, 1860. This issue carries a brief account of a formal duel to settle an affair of honor between two southern gentlemen. As will be seen, they wished to take no chances on missing so chose shotguns as the weapons:



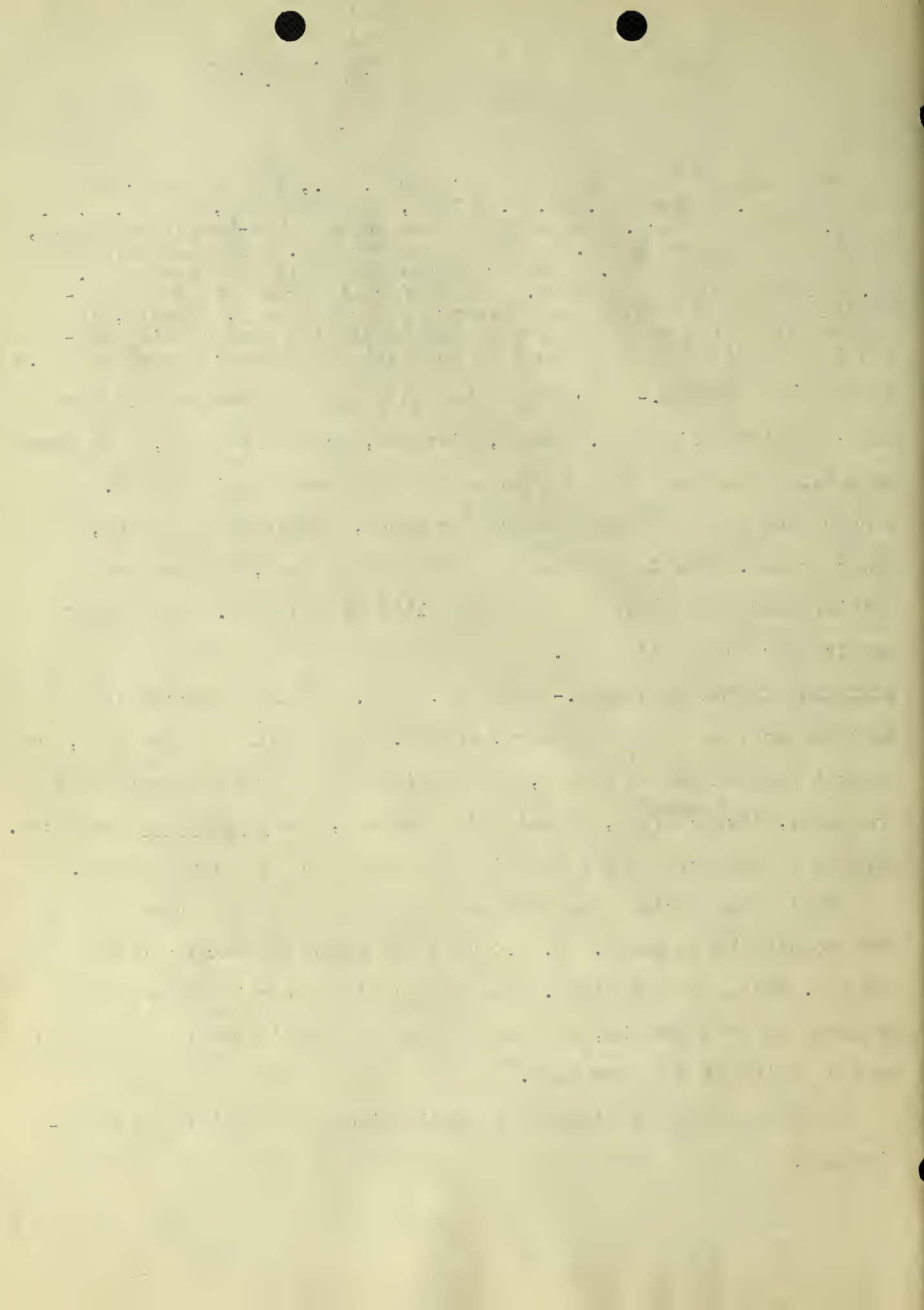
"A duel was fought at Scrivens' Ferry, Ga., on the morning of the 6th inst. between Dr. Wm. R. Holmes, of Waynesboro, and Mr. L. A. Nelms, of Warrensburg. The weapons used were double-barrel shot guns, and the distance 40 paces. At the first fire Mr. Nelms was seriously but not fatally wounded. Further proceedings were then suspended. Dr. Holmes received no injury. The difficulty grew out of the proceedings of a portion of the citizens of Burke County, Georgia, in hanging in effigy the delegates to the Charleston (Democratic) convention who did not secede as with the rest of the Georgia delegation."

BATTLE WITH INDIANS.- There was also an account of the pony express arriving with mail at St. Joseph, Missouri, from California, with news of a battle between white troops and Indians near Virginia City. A band of 500 redskins had ambushed the troop, numbering about 100, of Major Ormsby. The Indians escaped with slight loss, but most of the soldiers were believed to have been killed or captured. Only 38 of the troopers returned alive.

BRECKENRIDGE FOR PRESIDENT.- June 21, 1860. At the Democratic national convention at Baltimore, John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky, and General Joseph Lane of Oregon, were nominated for President and Vice President, respectively, of the United States, the Peninsular announced. Defense of slavery was the principal plank of the platform adopted.

This issue further reported public examinations had been held at the two schools in Tampa. W. T. Coons was named as teacher of one and Mrs. Porter of the other. The editor highly complimented the progress of both schools, and gave notice of entertainment to be given by the pupils at the Town Hall.

Possible domestic dissention was implied in the following advertisement:



"NOTICE

I do hereby notify all persons not to purchase a negro woman by the name of Lucinda, and her three children, to wit: Adeline, Dick and Fell, now in the possession of Sherod Edwards, as the said negroes are my personal property, as may be seen by examining the records in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, in and for the County of Hillsborough.

SARAH EDWARDS."

July 31, 1860. The editor took a fling at journalism as practiced in New Orleans:

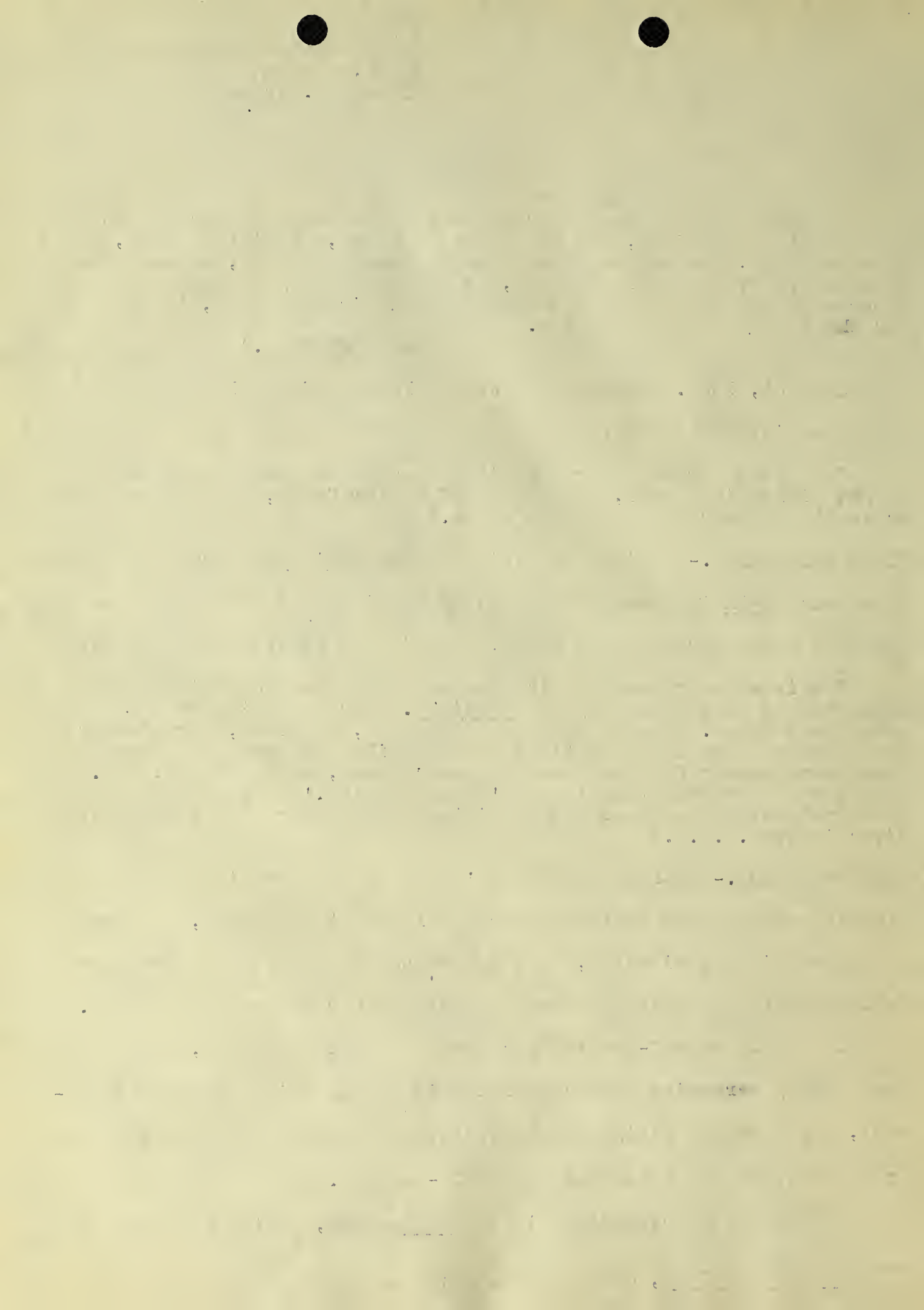
"It takes three editors to start a paper in New Orleans--one to get killed in a duel, one to die of yellow fever, and one to write the obituaries of the other two."

SLAVE SHIP LANDS.- This item copied by the Peninsular from the Montgomery Mail indicated that some of the imported Africans were reaching slave marts in the South, in spite of Federal regulations:

"Various rumors are in circulation about the 103 Africans who were brought into Mobile by the Clotilde. Three fourths of the rumors are false. The negroes were imported, we learn, for planters who received them about 12 miles above Mobile (the schooner being towed much higher for the sake of appearances), where wagons, etc. were ready to convey them to the 'Cane District.' The 24 advertised to be sold at New Orleans (for division) were afterwards sent up Red River instead. . . ."

BACK TO AFRICA.- Early in the 1800's the African territory of Liberia was acquired by the American Colonization Society, a large philanthropic organization, for the purpose of colonizing freed slaves from the United States and those rescued from captured slave ships. Intended to be a self-governing republic for Negroes only, efforts of the Society were aided and cooperated in by the United States Government, and American citizens were sent to Liberia to instruct the blacks in agriculture and other means of self-support.

The following news story in the Peninsular, copied from the Key West Key of the Gulf, dealt with a shipment of intercepted Africans to



the "Black Republic" of Liberia from the concentration camp maintained by the Government at Key West:

"The ship South Shore, one of the vessels chartered by the Government to convey the rescued Africans at this place to Liberia, arrived here on the afternoon of the 12th inst., thirty days from New York. Yesterday 281 of the Williams' cargo, consisting originally of 350 Africans, were sent on board, during which one of the South Shore's boats was capsized alongside the ship and several of the negroes drowned. . . . Today the balance of the cargo were received on board, and the vessel will sail for Monrovia, Liberia, touching at other ports of the Republic. To judge from the emaciated appearance of the negroes we should say about 70 or 80 may eventually reach the coast alive. What a shame--what an enormous Government sin!"

TAMPANS SHIP CATTLE TO CUBA.- Cattle raising was then a principal industry of the Tampa area, as indicated by this item in the Peninsular of July 31, 1860:

"This week we joyfully announce the speedy opening of a new trade with the Island of Cuba. It may not be generally known abroad that for the past year Captain James McKay has been engaged in shipping Cattle at the rate of about 400 head per month to the Havana market, thus creating a demand for beef heretofore unknown. . . . Each and every member of this and adjoining Counties has been more or less benefitted by Captain McKay's energy in opening and keeping open this market. To him is due the great praise as the pioneer in the enterprising project. The demand for beef in Cuba is increasing."

The paper further mentioned that Ferris and Son had also entered the business of exporting cattle to Cuba, for which purpose they had purchased and equipped the steamer Scottish Chief, and that Captain McKay has bought an additional vessel, the steamship Salvor for this trade. He was already operating the brig Huntress in shipping cattle to Cuba.

A news paragraph also recalls to memory a noted Negro of the 1860's:

"Blind Tom, the negro boy pianist, has suddenly disappeared. It is believed he has been abducted by the Abolitionists."

This blind Negro was a musical prodigy, nationally famous for many years as a concert pianist.

MORE AFRICANS SHIPPED.- Scissored from the Key West Key of the Gulf, the Peninsular told of more "black cargo" being shipped back to Africa in the Government's plan for disposing of those captured from slave ships:

"The total number of Africans brought to this port by Gulf cruisers and comprised in the three last captures (of slave ships) amounted to 1,432, of which number 294 have died here, 1,138 have been shipped back to their native wilds.

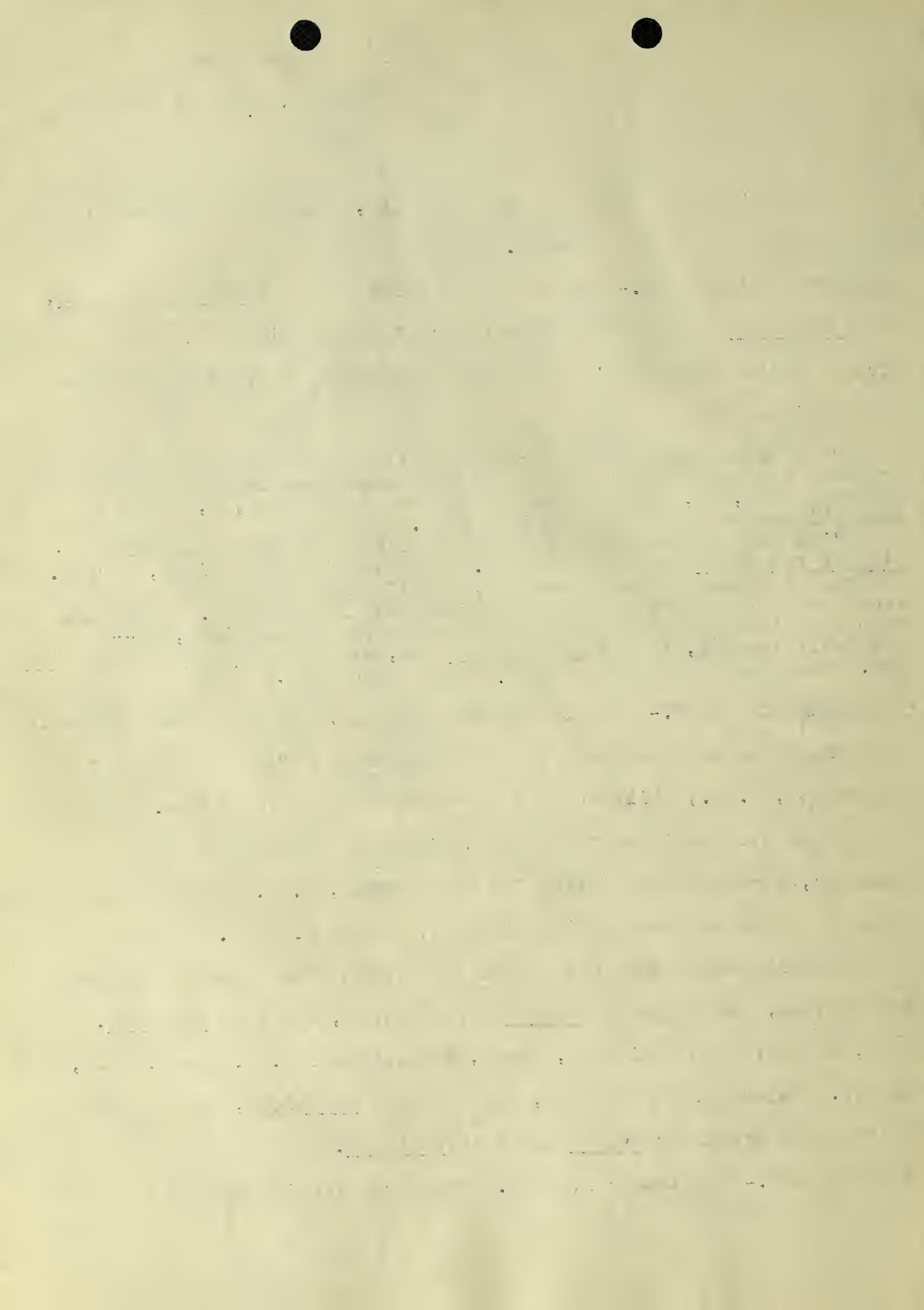
"The last of the African slaves were sent on board the ship Star of the Union on the 19th inst. and she sailed for Sinou, Africa. The number placed on board was 383, constituting what is generally known as the cargo of the unknown or unnamed French bark. The total number delivered over to the three vessels for return is 1,138--to the Castilian 414, to the South Shore 341, and to the Star of the Union 383. The balance of the original number have died."

"SCHOOLABLE CHILDREN"- The tax assessor of Hillsborough County announced through the press that there were 867 children of "schoolable age" in the county, i. e., children over 5 and under 18 years of age.

Democratic nominees for state offices were listed as: For governor, General John Milton; for congressman, R. B. Hilton; for senator of the 20th senatorial district, Samuel E. Hope.

Shipping news named the following movements of vessels: Arrived: From Havana, the propeller Salvor; from Havana, the brig Huntress, Read, master; from Indianola, Texas, the schooner J. B. Myers, Cobb, master. Departed: for Havana, the schooner Matchless, loaded with cattle; the propeller Salvor and brig Huntress.

GOLD DOLLARS.- September 1, 1860. News from Washington said:



"It is stated that the Secretary of the Treasury has consented to suspend the coinage of gold dollars, and to have those in the sub-treasury recoined into larger pieces for exportation, and to benefit the banks by creating a larger demand for one-dollar bills."

Another slave auction was announced in the following ad in this same issue of the Peninsular.

"SALE OF NEGROES AT AUCTION

Will be sold at public auction in front of the Court House door on Monday, 10th day of September, 1860:

One negro woman aged about 30 years, a good house servant; also one negro boy aged about 16 years. Said negroes are valuable servants in any capacity. They will be sold for cash on the day specified.

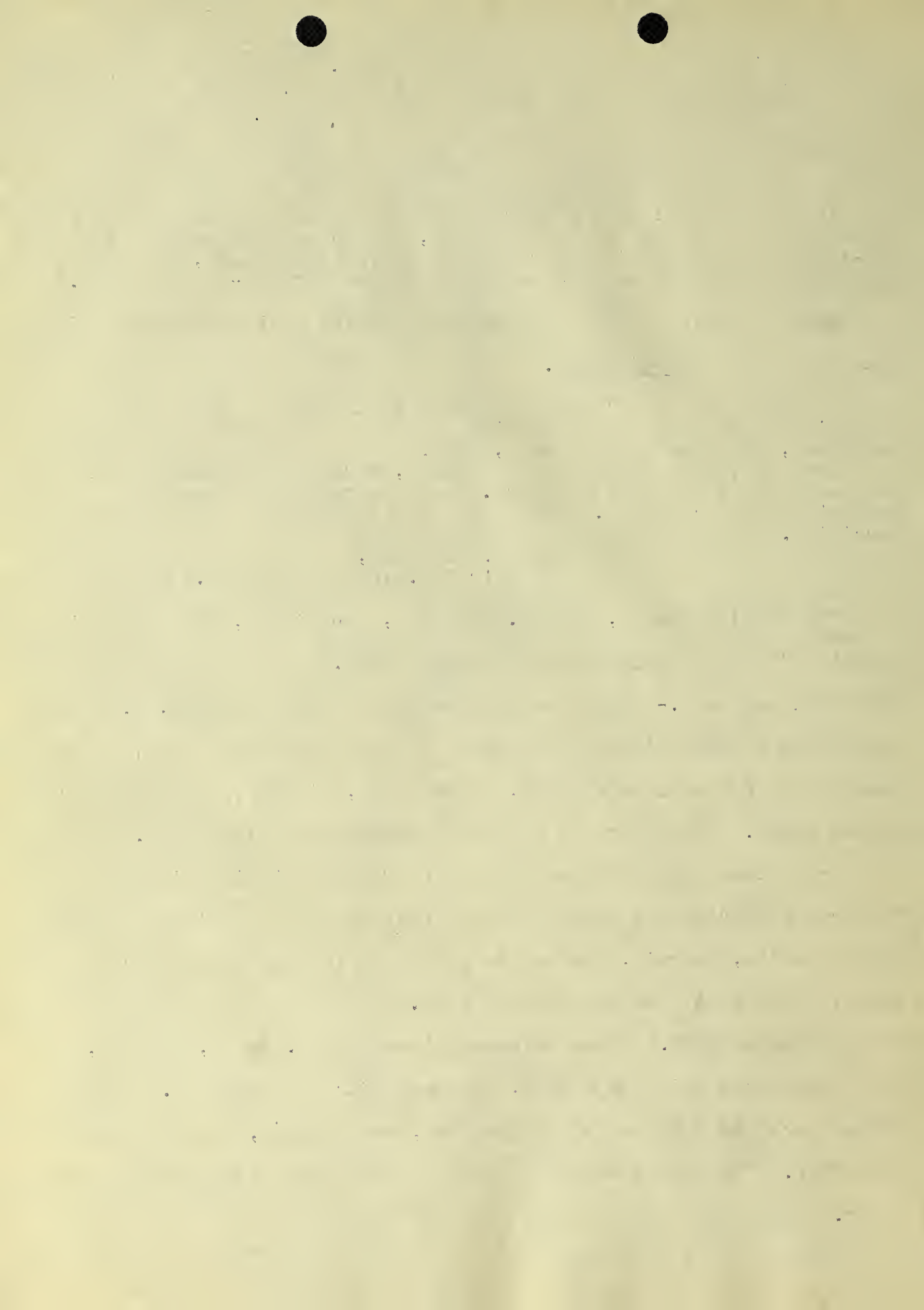
JOHN J. MCARTHUR,
Ex'r Est. of James McLeod."

The Florida Bakery, John F. Fletcher, proprietor, advertised its location "Next to the Methodist Meeting House."

ICE WATER FOR SALE.- A new advertisement proclaimed that S. W. Brockway has opened a confectionery and liquor store on Jackson Street, with such drinks for sale as whiskey, Holland gin, vinegar, and ice water by the glass. (Ice then was brought from the North in ships).

News items included the hanging of two abolitionists in Texas for arming Negroes and discovery of a plot for insurrection of slaves at Adamsville, Georgia, wherein a Northern white man said to be involved was run down by dogs and shot.

RUNAWAY SLAVES SHOT.- Three runaway slaves at St. Marys, Florida, were discovered skinning a beef, the paper further reported. Armed white searchers shot two of the Negroes, one fatally, and captured the other. The whites asserted one of the blacks threatened them with a gun.



HUMOR OF 1860.- These witticisms culled from Page 1 illustrate the humor of that era of poke bonnets and pantalettes, flowing whiskers and flowered vests:

"A young lady who recently performed a remarkable feat in rowing, has been presented with a yawl. A smack would be more appropriate."

"A printer's boy, wanting to kiss his sweetheart, addressed her as follows: 'Miss Lucy, can I have the pleasure of placing my imprint on your bill.'"

"A cute Yankee in Kansas sells liquor in a gun barrel, instead of a glass, and makes it appear beyond dispute that he is selling by the barrel."

"Why, Tom, my dear fellow, how old you look! 'I dare say,' replied Tom, 'for the fact is I was never so old in my life before.'"

"Whatever we may think of a woman's right to vote and legislate, there can be no disputing her right to bare arms--and the prettier and more irresistible the better her right. This is a right descended from old mother Eve."

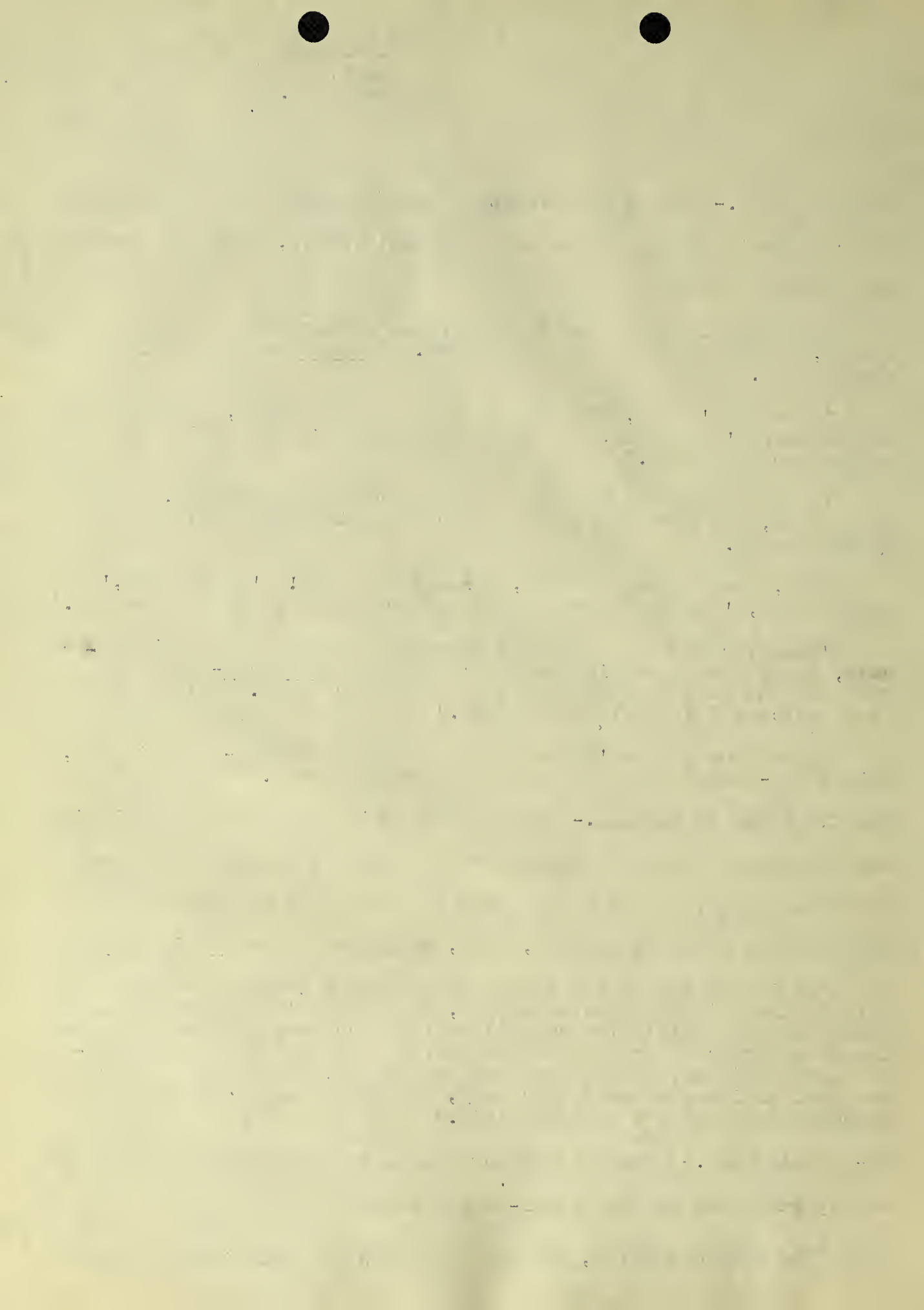
"I presume you don't charge anything for just re-membering me, said a one-legged man to a wooden leg manufacturer."

SLAVERY LEGAL IN FLORIDA.- That the legality of slavery in Florida was recognized by United States law but tax discrimination frowned upon was indicated by the following portion of an act passed by Congress and approved June 30, 1834, as quoted in the Peninsular:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That all acts or parts of acts passed by the legislative council of the Territory of Florida as may impose a higher or greater tax on slaves or other property of non-resident citizens, than is imposed on the slaves or other property of resident citizens of said Territory, be and the same are hereby repealed and declared null and void."

HE-MAN LANGUAGE.- That the editor pulled no punches when his dander was up was shown by this super-heated blast:

"The Southern Whigs, who had not taken position in the Democratic



ranks, swallowed the sugar-coated pill (abolitionism) and it "worked" them so severely that in the course of two or three years they were compelled to take an emetic and vomit up the black and kinky-headed 'Sam', together with all the publicity occasioned by his presence. . .

"Then why the senseless cry of 'fire eaters! fire eaters!' by the supporters of men who have no platform, or if one, such a one as Black Republicans can stand upon, and whose whole political history proves them to be sympathisers with the Bible-burning, God-damning fanatics of the North!"

ONLY DAILY IN FLORIDA.- September 29, 1860. An editorial in this issue says:

"The Pensacola Observer, edited by Marzoni and Jones, has recently appeared as a daily. The Observer is one of the best Democratic papers in Florida, and we are gratified at this evidence of its prosperity. As the Observer is the only daily paper in our State, we hope its success will be commensurate with its value."

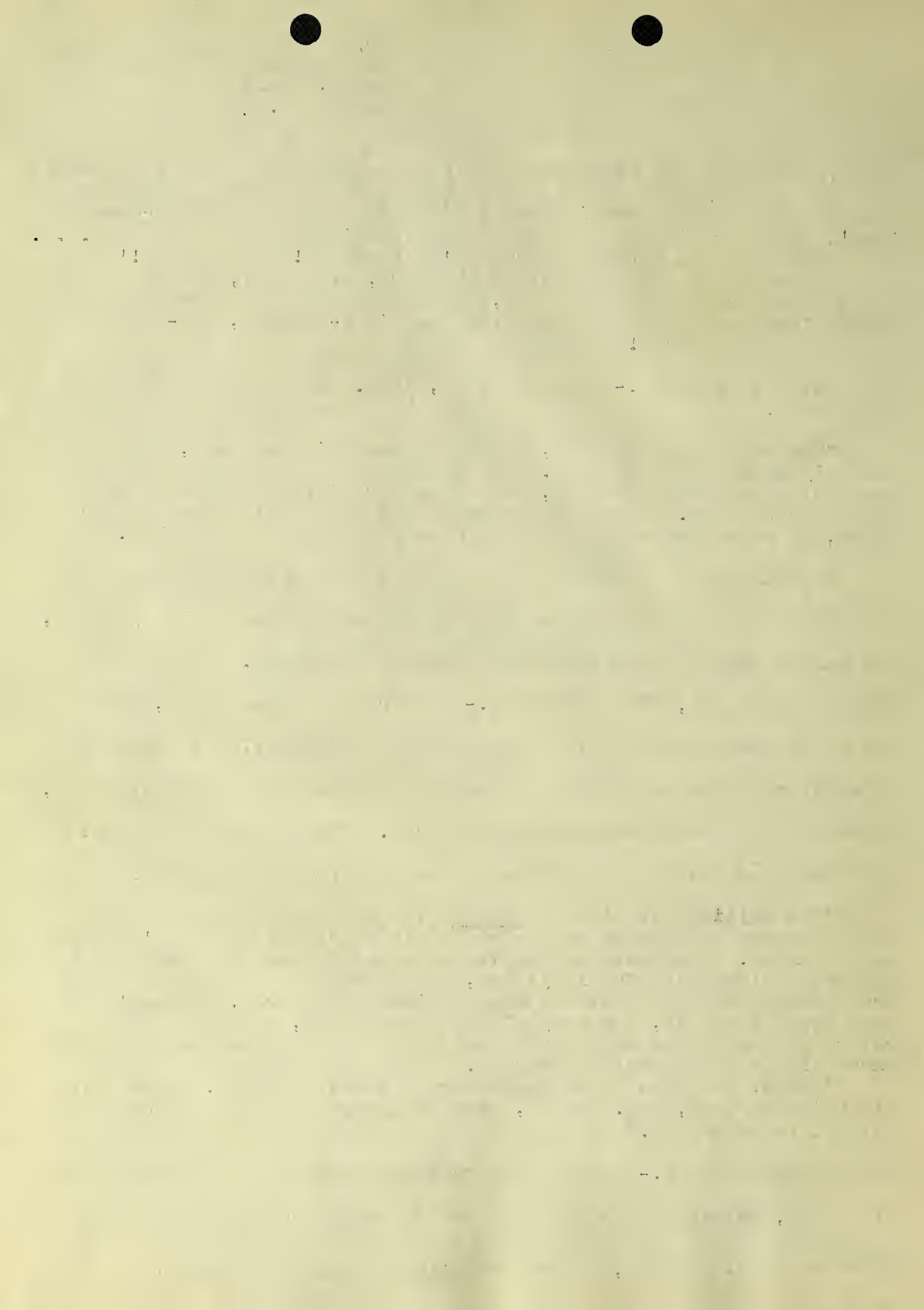
A local item stated that several children in different parts of the State had died from eating flowers or bark of the yellow jasmine, and warned readers that this shrub is very poisonous.

PASSING OF WALKER, THE FILIBUSTER.- General William Walker, the notorious American soldier of fortune and filibuster, had taken an expedition to Central America on another of his adventurous exploits, presumably to take possession of Honduras. That this was his last adventure was revealed in the following news from New Orleans:

"The British war steamer Icarus with a transport and troops under command of Alvarez proceeded to Rio Negro where Walker's army was encamped. The boats of the Icarus proceeded up the river and captured Walker with 70 of his men, all of whom were taken to Truxillo and delivered to the authorities of Honduras. Walker's men were very destitute, and many of them being sick, were permitted to return to the United States on condition they would not again join an expedition against Central America.

"LATER: Advices dated September 21 state that Gen. Walker and his chief officer, Col. Rudler, were condemned to death by Honduran authorities and shot."

VIGILANTES ORGANIZE.- Forerunner or progenitor of the modernized Ku Klux Klan, believed by some to be the secretly dominant factor in Florida politics today, was the "Vigilance Committee" organized in this



State in 1860. The Peninsular editor, who, by the way, was also a county judge, viewed the organization with high favor, as revealed in this comment:

"At a public meeting in Micanopy on the 15th inst. preliminary steps were taken for the organization of a Vigilance Committee, having for its object the suppression of a negro insurrection, and we may fairly presume, the proper care of abolition emissaries should any fall into their hands. The movement is a good one--worthy of emulation by every neighborhood in the South. In these dangerous times we should bear in mind that the 'price of liberty is eternal vigilance.'"

Summary of items in this issue included:

The Key West Key of the Gulf quoted as saying the sponge trade alone in that vicinity amounted last year to \$72,000.

News from Chicago of the sinking of the steamer Lady Elgin, 10 miles off Waukegan, with a loss of more than 300 lives.

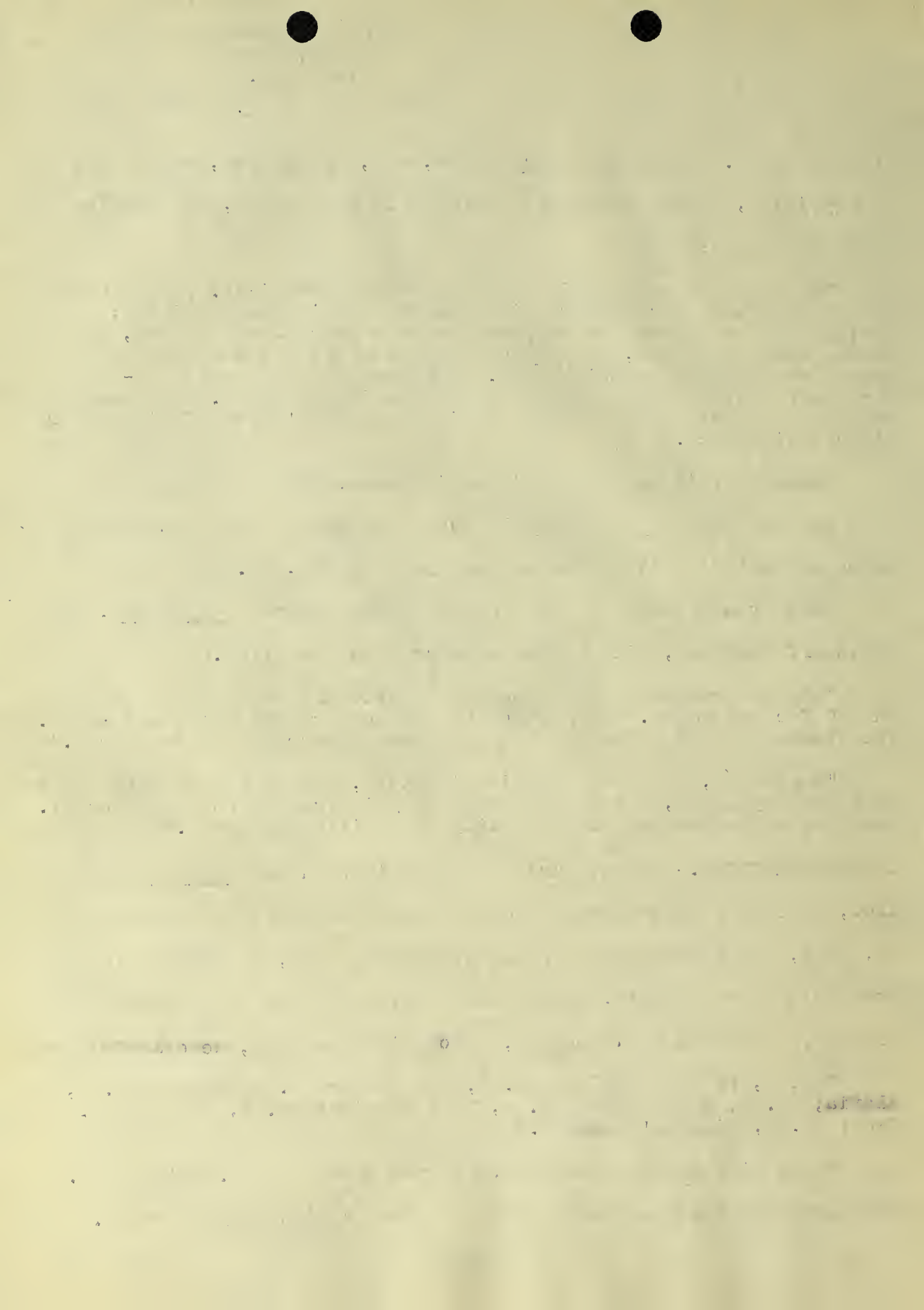
"She was rammed by the schooner Augusta and sank 20 minutes later in 300 feet of water. Only 13 of her passengers and crew were saved. The drummer boy of a band on board floated ashore on the base drum."

"Garibaldi, the revolutionist in Italy, was in battle near Naples with the Royalists, and entered that city in triumph on September 21. The king of Naples had quit the city and sailed for Gaeta."

COUNTY PRECINCTS.- Amont further revelations in the Peninsular of 1860, September 29 announced a county election to be held on October 19, 1860, for assemblyman for Hillsborough County, a list of voting precincts in the county, which then consisted of an area since divided, including Hillsborough, into nine counties, were as follows:

"No. 1, Point Pinellas; No. 2, Old Tampa; No. 3, Tampa; No. 4, Alafia; No. 5, Fort Meade; No. 6, Fort Frazier; No. 7, Socrum; No. 8 Cork; No. 9, Simmons' Hammock."

Point Pinellas was south of, but now a part of St. Petersburg. Old Tampa was the Hyde Park section of the present city of Tampa.



Fort Meade is now in Polk County, and Secrum, near Lakeland, also in Polk County. Attention was called to the fact that in the previous election a total of 1,511 votes were cast in the county.

SLAVES RECOVERED.- Appearing was this item clipped from the Marianna

Patriot: "Two negro boys (slaves) who were recently decoyed from Gadsden County by some white scoundrel, who made his escape, have been recovered."

An advertisement announced the Cuban Messenger, claimed to be the first newspaper in the English language to be published at Havana, Cuba. A weekly, the Messenger promised to give general and interesting information about the island.

SWEET ADELINE?- October 20, 1860 issue. A Tampan inserted this warning concerning his missing ward, but failed to state her color or age:

"RUN AWAY OR STOLEN

I hereby forewarn all persons from harboring Adeline Saphrons Gilley, or trusting her, as I shall pay no debts of her contracting, but shall exact payment for her services from all who may harbor her.

R. V. BUFFUM, Guardian."

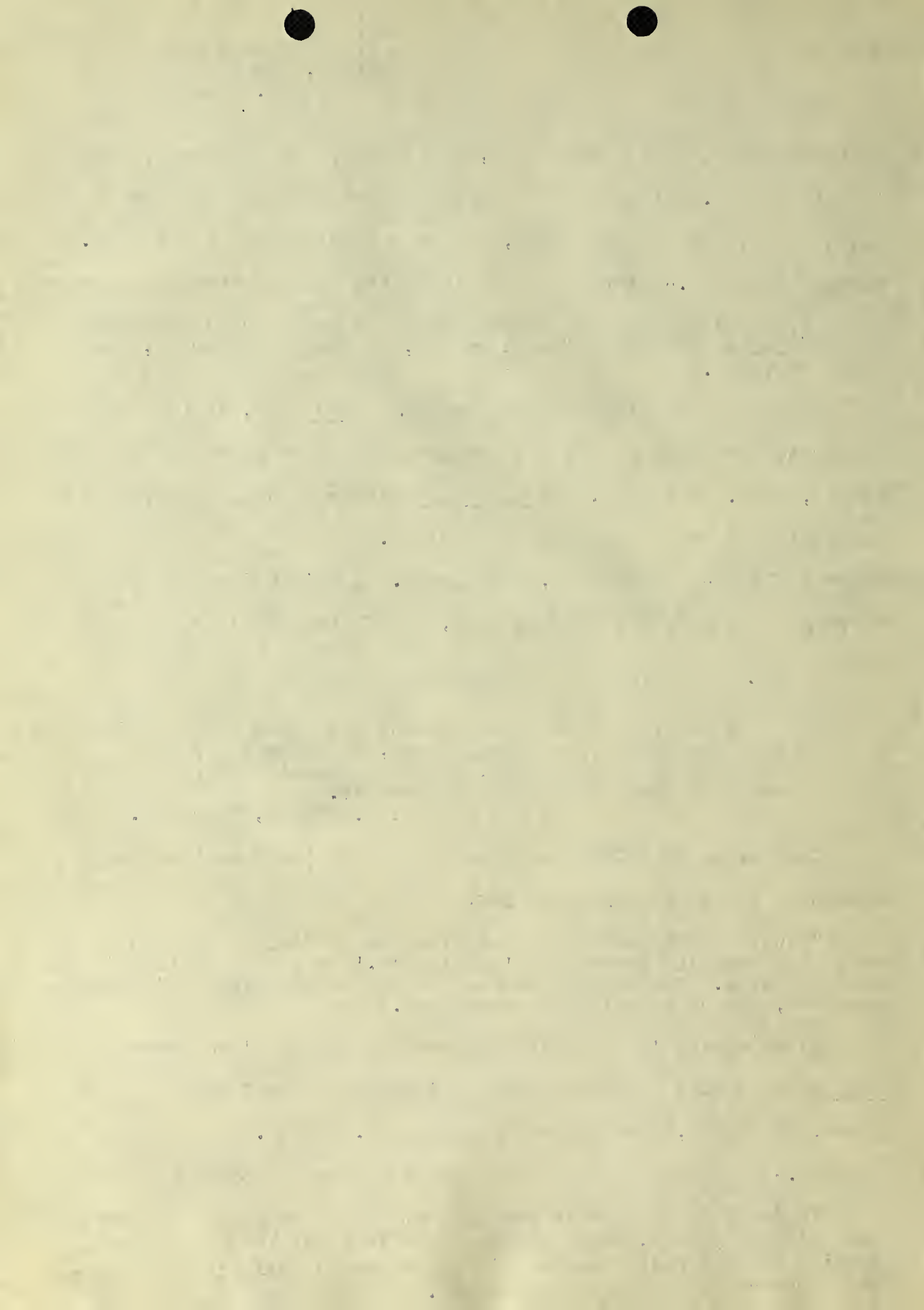
The following brief paragraph would doubtless merit at least a column in a present day newspaper:

"News from Calhoun County relates the killing of two men by an armed band calling themselves 'Regulators.' Reasons for the killing are not given. The militia was called out to suppress a riot that resulted, but no arrests were mentioned."

An ad headed "Peas Creek" and announcing that "The Schooner Alafia would make regular monthly trips between Fort Ogden on Peas Creek, and Tampa," was signed by Charles W. Hendry.

A DANDY.- The editor gives this description of a dandy of the period:

"A dandy is a thing in pantaloons, with a body and two arms; a head without brains, a cigar stuck in a hole before; tight boots; a cane; a scented white handkerchief; a starched collar; two brooches; and a show-ring on his little finger."



An item of marine news referred to Captain Tresca who later managed the escape of Judah P. Benjamin, refugee Confederate Secretary of State, by carrying him in his vessel to Nassau, Bahama Islands:

"Arrived on Wednesday from New Orleans, the Schooner Eliza Fisk, under command of Captain Tresca."

MONEYLESS BRIDAL TOUR.- "Captain Willard, proprietor of the Willard House at Cedar Keys, writes that he wants hotel keepers throughout the State to know that a man named Bebb (presumably with a bride) is making a bridal tour through Florida without money to pay his bills. Says the Captain: 'He is well versed in his profession, that of an imposter. When last seen he was making his way toward Apalachicola.'"

Reprinted from the Lake City Herald was this laconic report of a lynching:

"Tindall, who was tried at Gainesville for the murder of Cothron, and acquitted, was hung by a mob a few days afterward. We learn that he acknowledged the crime."

LINCOLN ELECTED.- News from Washington announced the election of the Republican candidate, Abraham Lincoln, as president, and Hannibal Hamlin, as Vice president of the United States.

Most southern states had repeated declared election of a Republican President meant WAR. The Peninsular of November 17, conceding the Republican victory, accordingly called a mass meeting of all Hillsborough County citizens to be held at Alafia on November 24 to consider action for secession. Under the caption, "Watchman, What of the Night," the editor thus expresses himself:

"The dark clouds which have long been thick, and thickening, have at last drifted over the temple of Liberty--the Constitution-- and burst into ten thousand fragments, besmearing its holy sanctity with their treasonable contents, and, as it were, with a sluice of corruption, washing out its foundations and razing in the dust that venerable bulwark of the liberties of the people. Aye, the asylum of liberty--the hope of the world--the United States Government, the freest and best ever vouchsafed to man by Divine Providence, has been

desecrated, the Constitution violated, and virtually the Government dissolved by the unhallowed acts of black-hearted Abolitionism and its deluded devotees. For, as will be seen in another column, the election of Abraham Lincoln as President and Hannibal Hamlin as Vice President is beyond peradventure.

"Sovereigns of Florida! Will you submit to a Black Republican administration? Will you become pensioners of Black Republicanism for the right to hold and protect your property? Will you sacrifice your Honor and sell your birthright for a mess of pottage?

"If yes, then you will merit and receive the gratitude of Abolitionism for your depravity, and take your stand in the scale of respectability and intelligence in the rear of 'niggers.' . . ."

SLAVES DEPRECIATING.- Quoted from the Savannah News to show how vested interests of the South were threatened was this:

"Lincoln is elected by a purely non-slaveholding vote. He is elected by a party having but one principle, and that is hostility to Slavery in the South. . . ."

"We know that by the census of 1850, in that year alone, one thousand and eleven slaves were taken from us by the underground railroad, for which the South did not get one dollar in return. Those slaves, at the present time, would be worth largely over one million dollars!"

"We see that negroes in Virginia are today 20 to 30 percent. less valuable in the market than they were three months ago, and the depreciation is solely owing to the prospects of Lincoln's election. . . ."

A Key West item gave the population of that city in 1860 as follows:

"Whites, 2,250; Free Colored, 157; Slaves, 434; Total, 2,841."

NIMROD HUNTED.- In the Peninsular of November 17, 1860 Edward Jones of Tampa advertised "\$25 reward for my boy Nimrod, formerly owned by Dr. F. Brand, having run away from my plantation on the Hillsborough River." The ad gives a description of the missing boy, saying "He has very large hands and feet," and is embellished at the side with a stock woodcut of a running Negro.

In the issue of December 1, 1860, Postmaster A. Delaunay announced a change in mail schedules as follows:

"Mails hereafter will leave Tampa on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and arrive on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays."

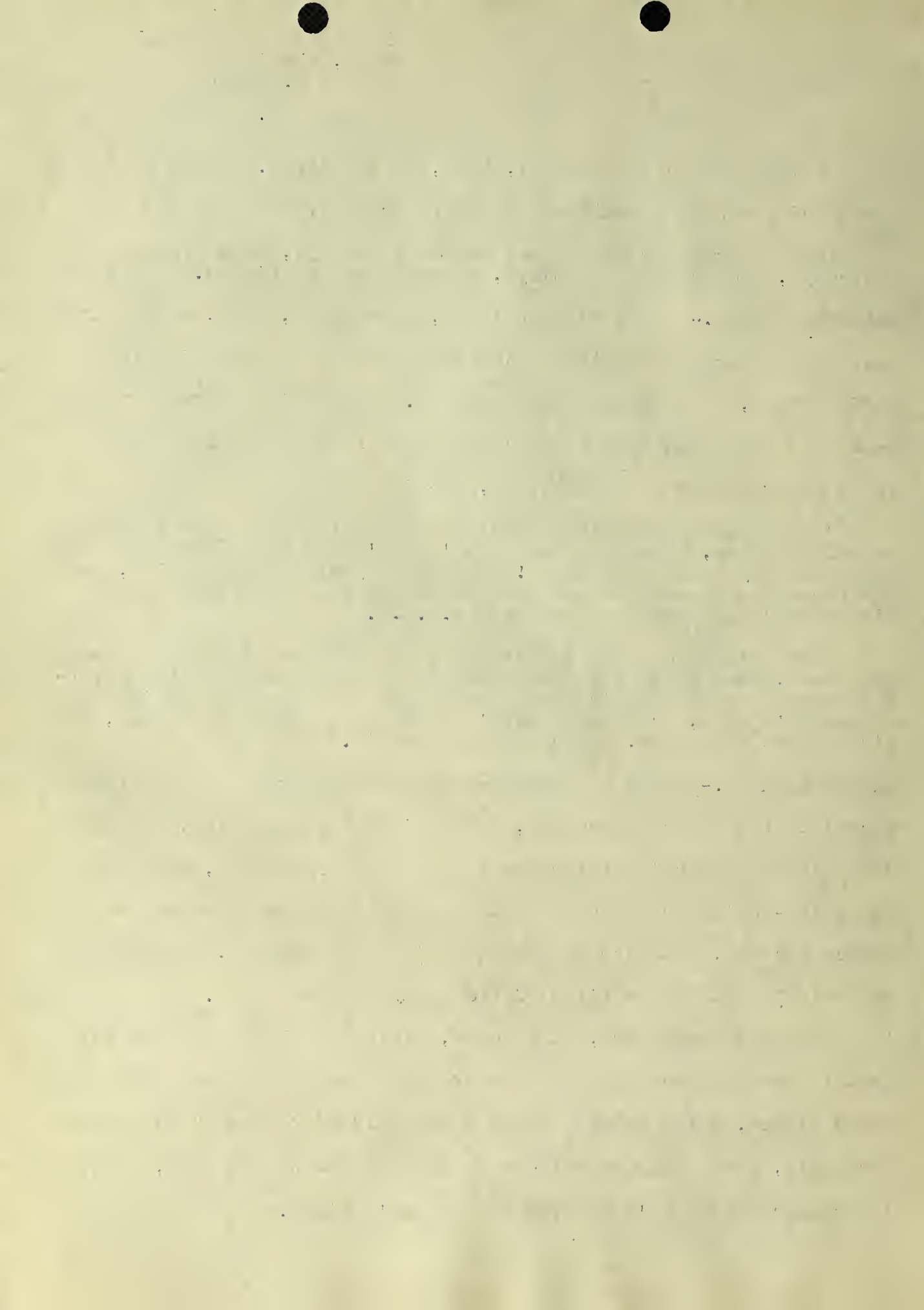
WALLOPING WORDS.- In this same issue, December 1, 1860, it appeared that the editor had received a somewhat irritating communication from Madison Post, a prominent Tampa citizen. That Editor Turman was a member in good standing of the robust school of journalism then in vogue he proceeded to demonstrate, to-wit:

"It appears that Madison Post has at last fallen into the trap we laid for him, believing that his 'honor' (a thing of which he has been entirely destitute for lo! these many years) was assailed, he has consented to give us and the public the data on which he based his slanderous accusation against us. . . .

"The developments in the cause of our defense will be published next week, as well as this pestiferous emission from a rotten Post--this appeal to the public from a man whose soul is more putrid than a buzzard's guts, from which hell's hottest flames would recoil, as virtue does from vice, and refuse to burn it."

WAR PROPAGANDA.- Both Confederate and Union veterans having since agreed that the war was caused, not by inherent animosity, but by conflicting commercial interests of the North and South, and that the two peace-loving populaces who did the fighting and dying had no desire for war, but were prodded into it by propaganda, have ample support of this in the files of the press of those days.

Northern newspapers, it appears, pictured all Southerners as brutal Simon Legrees who spent their time flogging slaves until the blood flowed, while papers in the South painted "Yankees" as devils incarnate, moved only by motives of tyranny and selfishness, thus, launching "a rich man's war and a poor man's fight."



How this resentment was flamed was emphasized in the December 1, 1860 Peninsular which quoted from papers throughout the South, flaming with denunciation of the North, defiance of the Government and threats of rebellion. South Carolina and Alabama were already reported purchasing arms and ammunition.

Accounts of an indignation meeting of Hillsborough County citizens following Lincoln's election reported fiery speeches by county leaders, including H. V. Snell, Judge Simon Turman, Joseph Harris, Rev. W. H. Meredith and others. Resolutions were passed calling on the State General Assembly to take action toward secession.

One of the resolutions: "We will not submit to the administration of the Government by said Lincoln."

Federal officials in the county pledged themselves to resign in a body.

LADIES ALSO AROUSED.- Attitude of Tampa women was indicated by this communication:

"Mr. Editor:-Is there nothing for us to do? Can we not come out boldly and show Mr. Abe Lincoln that the 'irrepressible conflict' has begun? Let us resolve that we will patronize Southern industries entirely; that we will dispense with those popular and interesting fashion magazines, and prefer powder magazines at present. Now is the time for renewal of subscriptions; let them not be renewed, and if there is no magazine in the South worthy of our support, we will make our Southern homespun the best we can, and with the aid of our more Christianized, more civilized and more fashionable Northern friends, we can still hold the hearts of our Southern warriors in bondage.--A LADY SECESSIONIST."

(Issues of the Florida Peninsular from December 1, 1860 to January 19, 1861, are missing from the files.)

FLORIDA VOTES SECESSION.- At a state convention held in Tallahassee in January, 1861, (no date given in the Peninsular), the paper of January 19, 1861 informed that delegates from all parts of the State

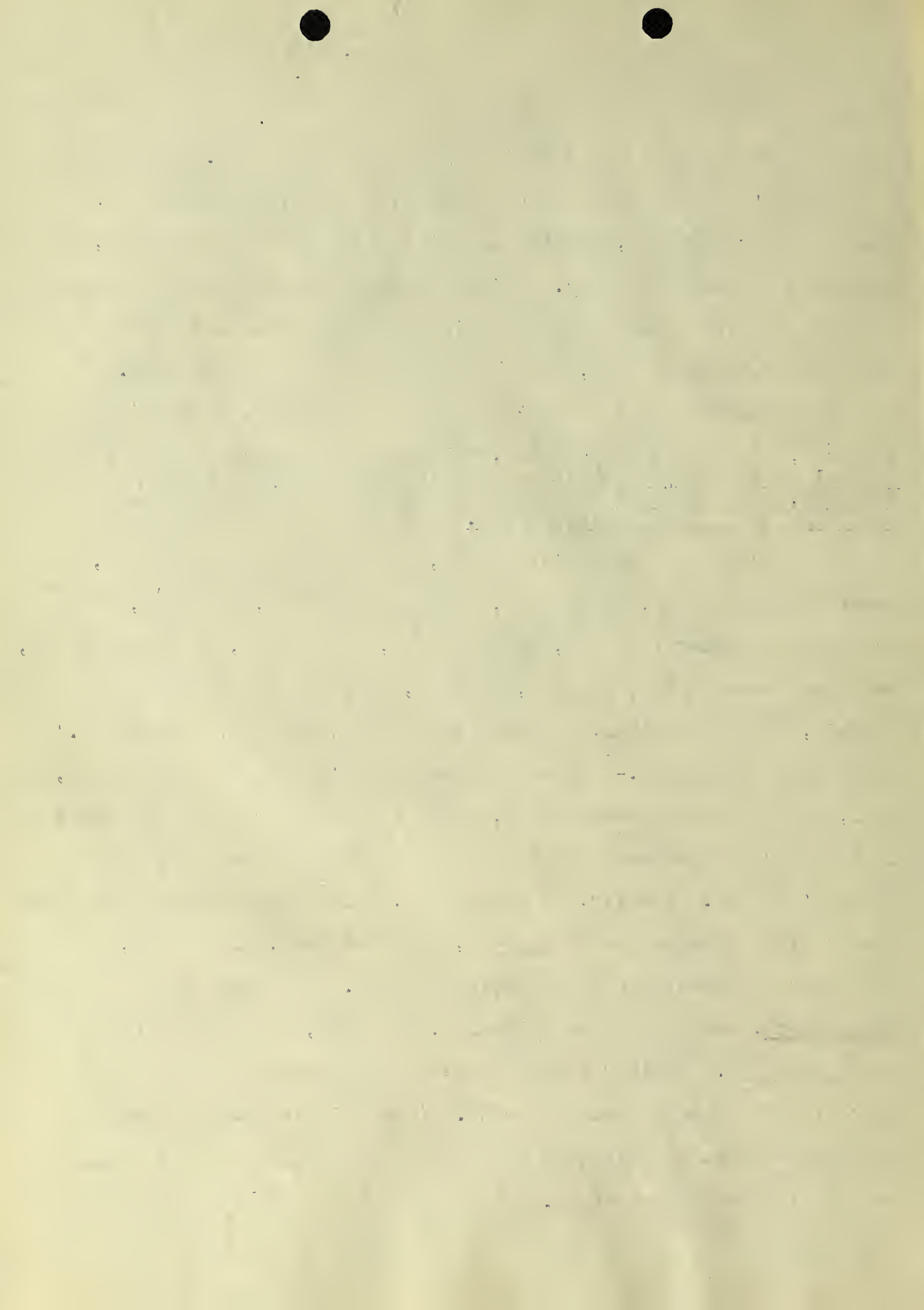
voted for secession from the Union by a vote of 67 to 7.

"Tampa's receipt of the momentous news was celebrated by a great ringing of bells, blowing of whistles and firing of cannon," according to the Peninsular. Military preparations for resisting the Federal Government by organization of militia companies and purchase of arms for them, evidently accounted for the cannons.

The resolution for secession passed by the State convention declared, among other principles, "All connection with them (the Federal Government) ought to be and the same hereby is totally annulled, and the State of Florida is hereby declared to be a sovereign and independent Nation."

Officers of the historic meeting, as listed in this journal, were: "Judge McGhee, of Madison, president; Harris, of Ocala, principal secretary; Brooks, of Lake City, and Rogers, of Apalachicola, assistant secretaries; Cameron, of Leon, sergeant at arms; Samuel Mattair, of Jacksonville, messenger; Saunders, of Levy, doorkeeper."

RIVAL PAPER ANNOUNCED.- Up to the Peninsular's issue of January 19, 1861, so far as mention was made, there was no other paper published in Tampa or Hillsborough County during the period covered by that journal's files. However, on January 19, Editor Simon Turman announced the arrival by the schooner Hibbard, from New York, of a press, type and other equipment for a new paper in Tampa. Its name was to be the Sunny South, and the editor Colonel A. Delaunay, formerly editor of the Peninsular. Editor Turman greeted the newcomer in a friendly spirit, and wished it every success. (Hostilities customary among rival newspapers of that time would no doubt open speedily after the new publication got started).



"A school at Simmons Hammock (in Hillsborough County) will be taught by H. A. Crane, beginning January 21st," said a local item in the same issue.

SABERS FLASH, CANNONS ROAR.- The old Peninsular seemed to have permeated its fading pages with the smell of powder and the rattle of arms as militia men gathered and farmers took down their long squirrel rifles from cabin walls:

"A company of Minute Men has been organized for defense of Tampa, with John T. Leslie, captain, R. B. Thomas, first lieutenant, and Vincent Leonardy, second lieutenant."

"The Florida State Militia has seized the forts and Navy yard at Pensacola."

"The Steamer Star of the West with Federal troops on board was fired upon by the State Militia on Morris' Island."

"The citizens of St. Augustine have taken possession of the U. S. fort at that place."

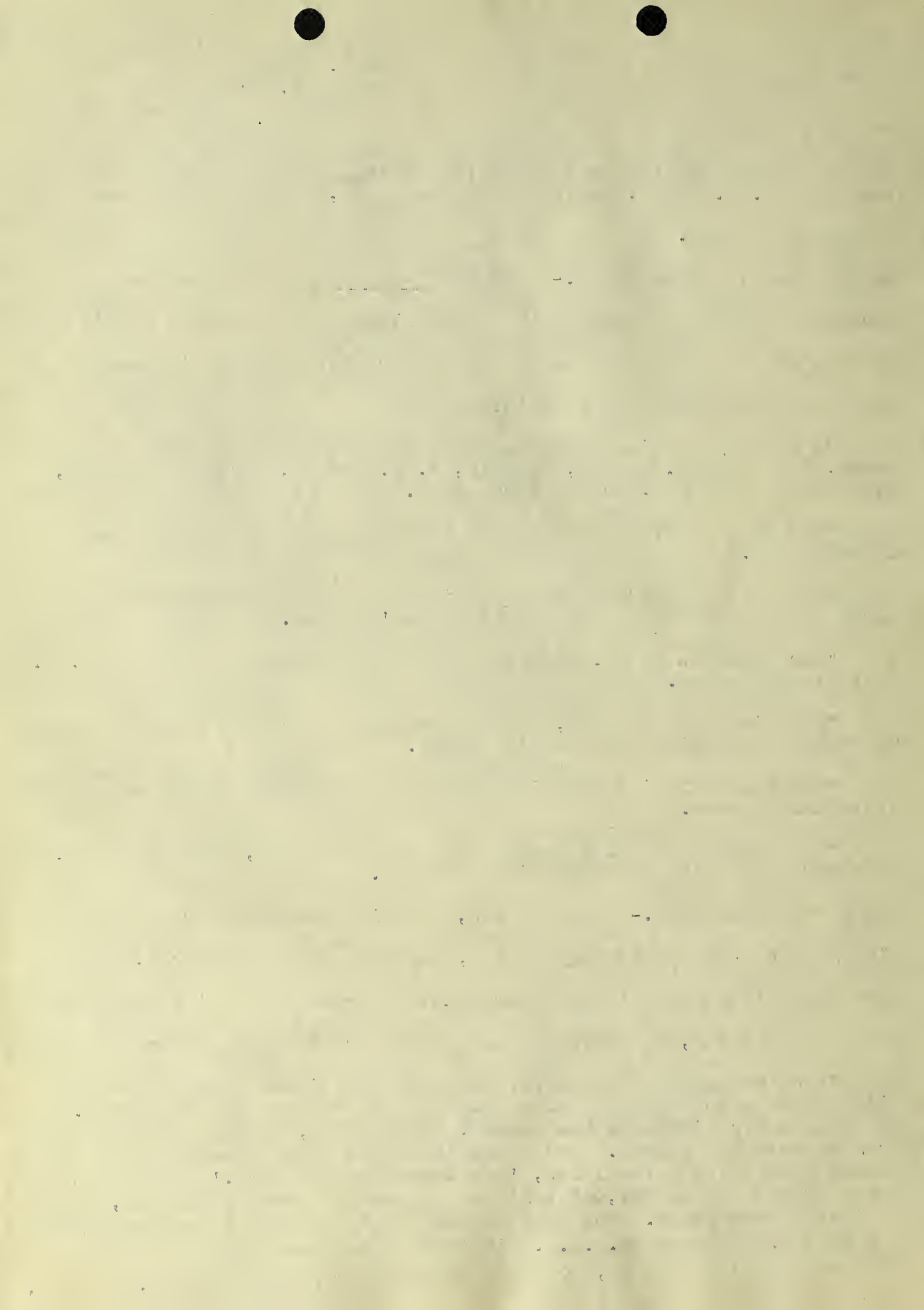
"Louisiana has seceded, and the Government arsenal at Baton Rouge was taken possession of by State troops."

"The Mississippi delegation in Congress received notice that State has seceded."

"Governor Perry (of Florida) has purchased arms, including 1000 Maynard rifles and 5000 Minie muskets."

NORTH FURNISHES ARMS.- Then as now, munition manufacturers reaped bloody gold from the carnage of war, regardless of its source, and despite imminent conflict northern manufacturers were still supplying arms to the South, as shown by this news story from New York:

"The leading dealers in firearms and munitions of war in this city are said to be still quite busy filling orders from the South. The demand for side arms has ceased, and muskets, rifles and ordnance are now most in request. One house in Broadway is engaged in filling orders from State authorities, 'for immediate despatch.' One of these orders is for 500,000 ball cartridges for muskets and 100,000 artillery cartridges. One hundred gun carriages will be shipped by the same firm next week. . . . Within the past week there have been shipped from New York 20,000 stand of arms for South Carolina, Georgia,



Alabama and Florida."

FORT SUMTER THREATENED.- The issue of January 26, 1861, reported:

"News from Washington dated January 11th states that Lieut. Talbot, the bearer of dispatches from Fort Sumter, arrived there and had a conference with the President and General Scott. It is understood that the policy to reinforce Fort Sumter at all hazards has been adopted."

LAST ISSUE OF THE PENINSULAR.- The issue of March 16, 1861, is the last paper in this old file of the Florida Peninsular. Numbers between January 26 and this date are all missing. Available sources of information do not disclose how much longer the publication continued.

Although the South was generally arming and had seized many forts and arsenals of the Federal government, and some hostile shots had been fired, particularly in the attack on the steamer Star of the West, war had not yet been formally declared. However, news from both North and South indicated universal conviction that a general conflict was at hand.

EDITOR RATTLES SABER.- In line with press comments throughout the South at that time was this editorial in the Peninsular:

"If war must follow secession, the sooner it is inaugurated the better for the South. When the first blow is struck the border States will take position with their Sisters who have abandoned the Old Union, and then will the Confederate States of America be impregnable.

"Lincoln may back down from his position, but we have no idea that such will be the case until he has smelled Southern powder. . . . We confidently expect the commencement of hostilities at Charleston and Pensacola as soon as the Commissioners from our Government to Washington present their credentials for an official reception--which presentation is extremely farcical, as Lincoln has already semi-officially declared that he will not receive them."

MARTIAL PREPARATIONS CONTINUED, as witnessed from this paragraph:

"A company of Mounted Men was organized at Fort Meade last week

by the election of Mr. Streaty Parker, captain; J. R. Durrance, first lieutenant; Z. Seward, second lieutenant. Also, on Saturday last, a Company of Cavalry was organized at Alafia by the election of Wm. B. Henderson, captain; Michael Alderman, first lieutenant; Wm. E. Seward, second lieutenant; John Mobley, third lieutenant."

LINCOLN INAUGURATED.-- News from Washington, D. C., dated March 4, 1861, (evidently from the viewpoint of a Southern reporter) thus described the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln as President:

"The city is all astir and excited. . . .The scene is a very different one from that presented at all former inaugurations. The volunteers seem to feel that they are ordered out to join the funeral procession of the Union. There are 1,200 of Scott's hireling troops under arms, closely watching every movement. The citizens are completely overawed. . . .

"Scott has hit upon a new coup de guerre. At all the principal points along Pennsylvania Avenue the housetops are covered with Federal soldiers, with their muskets pointing at the crowd. This is a Mexican idea."

The President's inaugural address, firm but conciliatory in tone, and indicating a desire to avoid war was quoted in part:

"There needs to be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none unless it is forced upon the national authority."

"The candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the Government upon vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court the instant they are made in ordinary litigation--litigation between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having practically resigned the Government into the hands of that eminent tribunal.

"In your hands, my dissatisfied friends and countrymen, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the Government, while I have taken the most solemn one to protect and defend it.

"I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break the bonds of affection. The mystic cords of memory stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as they surely will be, by the better angels of our natures."

So, at the very brink of war came to an end the dramatic record of influences that threatened to divide the nation, and not until 1866, after a bitter war had been fought and the South laid waste, but the nation still one, did the Peninsular come back to life to detail the harrowing experience of reconstruction days.

Even so the worn and yellow pages of the Florida Peninsular hand down a valuable legacy. Both history and fiction have covered the war itself, but the Peninsular file of this period, though black with war clouds that nearly eclipsed the local scene, nevertheless reflects a vivid contemporary picture of the Old South as a whole.

(In possession of the Tampa Daily Times is a scattered file of the Peninsular for the year 1859, and from 1866 to 1871, contents of which have been treated separately.)

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